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CLEAR SIGNS OF CUBAN PENETRATION IN NICARAGUA OUTLINED

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Nov 79 p 10

[Editorial: "Cuban Penetration in Nicaragua"]

[Text] As the weeks pass by, Cuban penetration into Nicaragua is growing. The initial dissimulation has disappeared, and the cautiousness of the first moments no longer exists. Units of the Managua government itself have the task of reporting the intensification of Cuban "aid," adding--and this is the most serious part--that it is devoid of any proselytizing or political motive. For this "peaceful invasion" of Castroism to have been possible, it was previously necessary to adopt a complaining attitude about the "lack of cooperation from the western world," thus opening a wide channel for the reception of technicians, teachers, doctors, and finally, a 10-ship Cuban fishing fleet, together with the specialized personnel to operate it. A cargo boat of fully 10,000 tons is, for now, the Cuban contribution to "Nicaraguan recuperation" in the maritime area.

We are seeing, then, a well known infiltration technique. One of its rules is to pretend to be without any political motive; and to this end Fidel Castro, a master of the art of simulation, in a theatrical gesture, rejected a shipment of Nicaraguan coffee in payment for the aid from Havana, which he said was granted "disinterestedly," because "It is and will be voluntary and without strings."

These and other incidents should be expected from a government like that of Nicaragua, which emerged in well-known circumstances, and in which the limited representation from moderate sectors has lost its importance, in view of the continuing decisive influence of the armed forces, which are totally in communist hands.

Recently Cuban "aid" has increased, with the arrival in Nicaragua of teachers, doctors, writers, artists, technicians, musicians and performers famous for their "protest songs." Dispatches from the official Cuban news agency "Prensa Latina"--utilized by almost all the Nicaraguan information media--are being used to create a Castroite image of the revolution. Cuba goes on preparing its infiltration, and now its agents have been introduced into

the public administration, into the government and into influential private circles.

The facts are eliminating all doubts. The sending of Nicaraguan pupils to Cuba, and the massive influx of Cuban teachers into Nicaragua, who "will remain in the country as long as may be necessary," have obvious political purposes beyond the educational ones which they pretend to. Apart from these episodes, but explaining them neatly, the Nicaraguan government decreed a press law which was essentially inspired by the Cuban and Soviet models; and in the UN it has already promised its vote, a foretaste of other similar positions, in favor of the claim of Havana to be a member of the Security Council.

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ARGENTINE JOURNAL CALLS FOR A COMMON STRATEGY AGAINST TERRORISM

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Dec 79 p 8

[Editorial: "Terrorism in Latin America"]

[Text] A study titled "Terrorism in Latin America: the Cuban Connection," prepared by the Heritage Foundation based in Washington, states that the increase in terrorism in this hemisphere is part of a plan by the Soviet Union and Cuba to reduce the influence of the United States on the continent, in "the most vulnerable part" of North America. In its 23 page analysis of the events which are occurring in Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador and other countries of Central America, the document asserts that what we are seeing is "something more than simple spontaneous rebellions against oppressive regimes." It adds that they "are part of a campaign of subversion and terrorism, internationally orchestrated to increase Soviet and Cuban influence in Latin America, at the expense of United States influence."

Strictly speaking, nothing stated in the report is new; and so its greatest virtue lies in its confirmation of the data and opinions expressed by others previously. It bears out their validity, and contributes toward strengthening and extending the prevailing view as to the predominantly international character of the guerrillas' actions, which are seemingly incited by local causes. These are military operations, with no defined front, within the framework of a penetration strategy, whose objectives have no fixed time limits, but however are part of a long-range plan.

Coinciding with the Heritage Foundation report, "Business International" in New York released a document in which it maintains that multinational companies of the United States and of other countries have, up to now, paid out around \$600 million by way of ransom demanded by terrorist organizations. Meanwhile, there is continuing confirmation of the modernization of the terrorists' war arsenal, a growing diversification in their tactics, international coordination of their actions, and notable improvements in the communication equipment that is used in the training and false documentation available to agents.

The subject of guerrilla warfare is beyond any conjecture. But the democratic world still is not facing up to the situation as a common threat. It is

imperative to work out a united strategy to modernize the legal and juridical instruments directed against violence and terrorism, to reinforce security organizations, to increase their effectiveness, and to coordinate a world-wide diplomatic offensive against this scourge.

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HAITI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SIGN AGREEMENT, ISSUE STATEMENT

Statement, Agreement Highlights

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 1 Dec 79 pp 1, 13

[Article by Luis Ovidio Sigaran]

[Text] Pedernales--Presidents Antonio Guzman and Jean Claude Duvalier of Haiti declared in a joint statement "their determination to the continue process of cooperation on a lasting basis and in the mutual interest of both nations" defined by the basic cooperation agreement of May 1979.

Guzman and Duvalier issued their joint statement during their second meeting in 6 months. The first took place in Jimani-Malpasse.

In the joint statement, both leaders express "their common wish to act jointly with the developing countries, in the United Nations and the regional and subregional institutions, in support of urgent solutions to the international economic crisis and the building of a fair and more equitable world economic order."

They declare their "common resolution to work toward the strengthening of regional understanding and solidarity, and in particular to intensify their efforts to create better conditions for cooperation among the nations of the Caribbean based on sovereign equality and ideological pluralism."

Moreover, they declare "their solidarity and firm resolution to confer periodically to determine the respective positions of the two nations in world and regional organization and in all circumstances that might affect the peace and security of the Dominican Republic and the Republic of Haiti."

Guzman and Duvalier met in Pedernales and Anse-a-Pitre.

In the introduction to the joint statement, the Dominican and Haitian presidents say they are firmly resolved "to strengthen the bonds of friendship that unite the peoples and governments of the Dominican Republic and Haiti."

Moreover, they declare that they are issuing the statement "convinced of the need to promote Dominican-Haitian cooperation" and because they consider the Pedernales diversionary dike "a tangible symbol of the determination of the governments" of both countries to "jointly build works of peace and progress in the common interest of their two peoples."

The joint statement was signed by Guzman and Duvalier after the work had been blessed by the bishop of San Juan de Maguana and the Dominican president had declared the dike opened.

On Guzman's initiative, the two presidents exchanged the fountain pens used to sign the joint statement.

At the first meeting, the two leaders signed a basic agreement on cooperation that was the basis for yesterday's ceremony. In that 10-article agreement, Guzman and Duvalier agreed to negotiate: a) a trade agreement intended to promote expansion of economic activity, develop job sources, increase productivity, and utilize national resources, through the progressive elimination of tariff laws between the two countries; b) an agreement on transportation, to improve the land, sea and air communication in order to facilitate border traffic; c) the signing of mutual credit agreement between the National Bank of Haiti and the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic to facilitate payments between the respective countries.

It should be remembered that they are the only two presidents of the nations occupying the island who have met twice in 6 months to demonstrate their willingness to cooperate in common development.

More on Dam Cooperation

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 1 Dec 79 pp 1, 13

[Excerpts] Pedernales--President Antonio Guzman declared that the Dominican and Haitian governments may consider the possibility of jointly building a dam on the Masacre River at Dajabon and a hydroelectric dam on the Artibonito River in Haiti.

Speaking at the opening of the diversionary dike on the Pedernales River, which was built with both Haitian and Dominican funds and technicians, and in the presence of Jean Claude Duvalier, president of the neighboring country, Guzman stated that the new project has become the "symbol of our joint cooperation."

The dike was built at a cost of 264,000 pesos, and will irrigate 40,000 tareas of erable land (20,000 on each side of the border).

He said he was convinced that using the resources of the border land should be one of the basic aspects of Haitian-Dominican cooperation."

He believed that the diversionary dike "represents the beginning of a new and fruitful period of mutual cooperation between our countries."

Guzman stated that the dike is "a palpable example that men can bring together knowledge, effort, and work for the welfare of the hundreds of men and women who work the land and who will no longer see the waters of the Pedernales River go to waste in the sea."

He recalled that during the 1950's the Dominican Government built the Olivares canal, and 2 kilometers downriver the Haitian Government built the Macary canal. Both had indirect intakes, permitting the diversion of the water through temporary dikes which destroyed the rise, thus causing the need to build the project dedicated yesterday.

Guzman said that yesterday was the harvest of the fruits of the historic Jimani-Malpassee meeting in May of this year, which strengthened the ties of friendship between the two nations.

In response to Guzman's welcome, Duvalier said that it was proof "if that were necessary, of our common concern of maintaining the dialog between men and cultures in two communities whose solidarity is due to identical destiny of their island in the constant turmoil of events in today's world."

Symbol of Relations

The President of Haiti said that "today's ceremony has great historical significance for our two peoples. It symbolizes in the history of Dominican-Haitian relations, an eloquent illustration of the desire of two governments to build a new order of relations, based upon solidarity and mutual understanding."

He stated that, with the dike, Dominicans and Haitians have become a part of the struggle by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and the United Nations to preserve ecological environments, which are so vital to the balance of exploitable resources.

PR on Agreement, Elections

Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 2 Dec 79 p 28

[Text] Dr Washington de Pena considered presidents Antonio Guzman and Jean Claude Duvalier's meeting on the Dominican-Haitian border an achievement for the present government and beneficial to the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

The leader of the Reformist Party in the Chamber of Deputies recalled that it had been argued for years that the people who share the island should have better relations.

He then added that the governments on both sides have unfortunately not permitted that kind of relations, noting that the history of the two nations is filled with conflicts.

"But gradually we have become civilized, and I believe that it is an achievement for both President Buzman and President Duvalier to begin a definite task," Dr Washington de Pena said.

He noted that the diversionary dike built in Pederanles, which was dedicated by Presidents Guzman and Duvalier, is a great thing since there is little water in those areas.

He stressed that the construction of that dike is one step in opening relations for both nations, which will benefit the Dominican Republic, since Haiti is a large market for this nation.

"We are going to have a large market. There are many Haitians and they produce little," the reformist leader pointed out.

With regard to the electoral campaign in the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD), the former PRD leader and present member of the Reformist Party unhesitatingly stated that of the candidates for president from the white party, Manuel Fernandez Marmol, has the best chance.

He declared that Fernandez Marmol "is loaded, simply loaded with official support, and also has his history in the Dominican Revolutionary Party."

Although he made it clear that he did not intend to eulogize Manuel Fernandez Marmol, Dr Washington de Pena indicated that "don Manolo" is a great person who he called a good friend.

With regard to the internal problems of the PRD, the reformist representative to the Chamber of Deputies recalled that the PRD's internal problems go back many years.

"The fact is," he said, "the PRD has never come to a convention as the PRD in government. Managing resources, having resources to give, having every cent at its disposal."

He stated that the present PRD secretary general, Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, is a great leader of the masses, the most charismatic leader in the Dominican Republic at this time, adding that president Antonio has also grown in the PRD.

In his opinion, that situation will weaken the PRD instead of strengthening it.

ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA AGREE ON PRICE OF NATURAL GAS

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 22 Dec 79 p 9

[Text] Beginning 1 January, the price Argentina pays for the natural gas it imports from Bolivia will go up 80 percent. Apparently an agreement was reached on this figure last night, at the conclusion of a week of negotiations.

The information we were able to obtain at the Finance Palace reveals that, after a lengthy meeting last night at the Ministry of Economy, the representatives of Bolivia and Argentina agreed to set the increase at a point midway between the original proposals of both parties. Thus the new price would be approximately \$2.80 per thousand cubic feet. It will be recalled that the Bolivians had sought to raise the present price from \$1.54 to \$3.54 per thousand cubic feet, while Argentina's original counterproposal was \$2.60, according to uncontested reports.

Participating in the meeting were representatives of the Bolivian delegation, which has been in this capital since last Tuesday, and for Argentina, Economy Minister Jose A. Martinez de Hoz and Energy Secretary Daniel Brunella. The talks, which began at 1800 hours, were considered to be the conclusive bargaining session for this round of negotiations.

The new price of Bolivian gas imported by Argentina will be approximately 80 percent higher than that in effect through 31 December, thus satisfying Bolivia's wish to readjust the price of that product as of January. According to current contractual clauses, any revisions of gas prices must be made in January or July, so the absence of an agreement at that time could mean the extension of current price levels until the middle of next year.

If the unofficial version of the size of the increase agreed on last night at the Finance Palace is confirmed, Argentina's bill for gas imported from Bolivia will rise to \$176 million during the course of 1980, provided that further readjustments are not made in the interim. On the other hand, Bolivia's income in foreign reserves for its exports of natural gas is a significant contribution to its balance of trade, considering that its total exports amount to \$800 million annually.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ARGENTINE NEW GAS PIPELINE TO CONNECT WITH BRAZIL, PARAGUAY

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 24 Dec 79 p 7

[Text] The opening of competitive bidding for the construction of a gas pipeline in the Northeast will be announced soon after final approval--considered to be imminent--is granted on the awarding of a contract to a Dutch firm to lay the Central-Western gas pipeline. This pipeline will be laid via the "toll" system.

At the Finance Ministry, where this information was learned, it was understood that the project will include the provinces of Chaco, Formosa, Corrientes and Misiones, which would then be connected to the gas fields of Salta and Jujuy. It is also anticipated that the conduit will be extended to Paraguay and Brazil. Concerning these extensions, it was noted that, during a recent visit, Brazil's Finance Minister, Karlos Fischbieter, stressed in talks with Dr Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, chief of the Economy Ministry, his country's interest in using Argentine gas. As is known, Brazil depends on foreign countries for 80 percent of its oil and gas, and Brazilian authorities are seeking to assure an uninterrupted supply for their market.

According to present plans, this subject will reappear at the negotiating table when the presidents of the two countries meet next year in Argentina.

However, regarding the pipeline in the northeastern provinces, at least, studies have been stepped up to establish the specifications for the bidding, since the project is considered inevitable.

Technicians from YPF [Government Oil Deposits] insist particularly on building the pipeline quickly, although this is not strictly within their sphere of operations, but rather that of the State Gas Company. This is because the lack of an adequate transportation system holds back the exploration of rich deposits in the north that are predominantly gas bearing areas.

The "toll" system of construction would also be employed in this case. Apparently this system demonstrated its suitability--and the interest it

attracts--at the recent bidding on the contract to lay the Central-Western gas pipeline, which will run totally within the national territory.

As for the pipeline extension to Brazil, which will certainly encompass the Porto Alegre region, it is presumed that our neighbor will set up a similar system for the construction of the corresponding stretch of pipeline within its own territory.

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REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO 'POLITICAL BASES' DOCUMENT

Policy Foundations Analyzed

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Dec 79 p 8

[Text] In a rather austere and simple ceremony, the several commanders of the services handed the president of the nation the document containing the "Policy Foundations of the Armed Forces for the National Reorganization Process," assigning to the Executive Branch "responsibility for the actions deriving from their implementation, reserving their management and supervision to the Military Junta." After a brief introduction, the document outlines the doctrinaire, program, and instrumental foundation which are defined in the following manner: The nation's political-institutional normalization will be completed on the basis of the doctrinaire foundations; proper coherence and effectiveness in the attainment of national objectives will be assured on the basis of the program foundations; and coexistence among the diversity of ideas will be established on the basis of the instrumental foundations and the information and consolidation of major organized public opinion currents will be promoted in this fashion likewise.

Because of its tremendous importance, it must be stressed that, at the end, the document states that "The preamble and the rights and guarantees spelled out in the first part of the National Constitution are a doctrinaire creed and a source of permanent inspiration for the process of national reorganization." It also adds that "If the indispensable necessity were to arise for a reform of the instrumental aspects of the Constitution, that would only be the result of the requirements springing from the political-institutional normalization process." From these statements one can clearly infer the intent of abiding by the 1853-1860 Constitution with the amendments introduced in 1957 and that the possibility of its amendment, which is alluded to, will be reduced to what may inevitably be necessary in order to restore the institutions in view of the total void in regard to the branches of government.

In view of statements from high officials which were not always in agreement, the decision not to alter the constitutional precepts, except as strictly required by the reason mentioned, will eliminate doubts and worries

which periodically stirred public opinion. This decision reveals a welcome orientation for the future of the country in eliminating the risk of political and institutional experiments with unforeseeable consequences. The country will thus go on, relying on the supreme guarantee of coexistence as represented by the Constitution whose authority and prestige go hand in hand with the juridical security it affords.

The doctrinaire foundations recognize that it is the fundamental responsibility of the state to assure the full effectiveness of civil and political liberties and that their responsible exercise is a duty and a right for all of the nation's inhabitants. The rule of civil equality and the full effectiveness of the principle of equality of opportunity, national unity, the common good, the practice of justice—these are recognized and exalted in terms which one can only share. The invocation of the principles of "subsidiarity" and "totality" deserves special attention. It is stated in this respect that, looking at the former, the larger social groupings exist to aid and not to absorb the smaller ones and that their role consists in doing what the latter must not or cannot do. It was added that, looking at the second principle, it is the duty of the state to regulate and harmonize all rights linking individuals to society.

The assertion to the effect that the nation drafts its own objectives in the preamble to the Constitution and that those listed there are permanent and rigorously up-to-date has produced particular support. The same must be said about the adequate reference to private property and its social function as an innate right of man to possess the assets necessary for his preservation and perfection. It is thus recognized that the essence of property is its capacity of being a right and that the accessory aspect involves the social function which it performs, like all of the other rights. The need for major political parties and the announcement of an electoral system which will permit the existence of a majority administration but which will affirm respect for and intervention by the minorities constitutes another major point in the document.

Because of its length, it is impossible to analyze the remaining program and instrumental foundations and we will mention only the following ones because of their tremendous importance: The exclusion of totalitarian ideologies; the dignity of the human individual, considered an inviolable value; the concern with common education on all of its levels; the monopoly of force exercised by the authorities within the juridical system.

There are two aspects which require broad clarification. One of them is related to "the political disqualification which will be selective and which will be imposed by the judicial branch without regard as to the authority inherent in the Military Junta"; the other one deals with the institutionalized intervention of the Armed Forces in the administration "in terms of making decisions for the conduct of national strategy, national security, and the defense of the "National Constitution." Both the political

disqualifications and the intervention mentioned--in accordance with the wording given--will have to be set up in terms of implementation with precision and reliability so that they may be useful during the difficult phase of national reorganization which is beginning and so that they may be included in our juridical system.

In summary, the foundations expressed high intentions and from them springs a commendable aspiration for the republic's moral and material aggrandizement. However, their provisions do not contain the decision which the Armed Forces will inevitably have to be made, a decision which we have mentioned many times and on which depends the country's fate. The content of foundations is absolutely incompatible with the structures inaugurated by Peronism when it was in power but those structures so far have not yet been removed. The mistaken orientation of the new law on professional associations, the monstrous welfare system, the paternalist state, government management [of the economy] and controls, inflation motivated by the hypertrophy of the state and its participation in the economy--these add up to a totalitarian concept of government and society. Just as the republic was in reality abolished in 1946 to institute a totalitarian dictatorship, so will the political foundations of the Armed Forces be deprived of their noble inspiration if the heritage of Peronism survives.

Postponing, delaying, and waiting, when the destiny of the nation is at stake, will only disappoint the citizenry and will trigger the reproach of generations following the rulers at this moment who fail to transform their intentions into facts.

Policy Foundations Detailed

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Dec 79 p 13

[Article by Manfred Schoenfeld: "Long preparation for saying relatively little in a rather lengthy document"]

[Text] The title we chose for this commentary is not supposed to be original. It occurred to us instead that the impression we derived from reading the "Political Foundations of the Armed Forces of the Process of National Reorganization" was the same developed by many other observers, most of whom undoubtedly are wiser than we are. In other words, the impression that we are dealing here with a very lengthy text, full of a series of commonplace images and a goodness and beauty that are something less than indisputable, something like one might imagine as the moralizing sermon of a Sunday preacher--although in essence there is a shortage of specific aspects and precise outlines. They, we are told, will be part of an implementation paper which will be released later. But the question is: When? If the drafting of so general a scheme as the "foundations" took such a long preparation time and if this permitted the formation of a climate of intensive expectation among the citizenry, such as it prevailed

until yesterday, then we must try to figure out how much time will be needed for this implementation paper and how many conjectures this might give rise to.

Because, after all, we must not forget that the "foundations" were released in a solemn manner; they apparently assumed the character of a "proposal" so that the citizenry may express itself within certain "limits of dissent" which have been outlined although in a relatively vague fashion.

Well, now: What sectors of the citizenry might openly oppose these "foundations" within whose broad range of intentions there are lacking practically none of the goals that constitute the usual action program of any administration or anybody who wants to constitute a government?

As was to be expected, we find here such concepts as liberty, democracy, the representative system, republicanism, federalism, justice, national security, both domestic and foreign, the family, the traditional cultural values of our nation, the values of Christian civilization, private property, the importance assigned to political parties, and the cultural heritage; we could go on listing general concepts which nobody can be against in overall terms, which nobody could object to but which, under the heading of an overall "desideratum," basically do not signify anything specific.

The Constitution of 1853

All of this has already been spelled out, sometimes in an obviously implicit form, sometimes through practical indications much more specific than those contained in the document we are commenting on, in the Constitution that was given to the country more than a century ago and which--whether the epigonic spirits, who strongly desire to go down in history as the creators of a "new Argentina" like it or not--continues to be a masterpiece, endowed with internal flexibility which make it adaptable to the new historical-political circumstances arising from generation to generation, only perfectible in some easily adjustable details.

It must be admitted--in order to do full justice to those who drafted the "foundations" which were disseminated yesterday--that they fully understood the value of the Constitution. They, as a matter of fact consecrate it as a permanent source of inspiration--although they refer to it specifically only in the preamble and in the rights and guarantees established in the first part--but that in itself constitutes a historical commitment assumed by the Armed Forces, a commitment which is worthy of commendation.

As far as a possible amendment of the Constitution is concerned, it was said that this would involve instrumental aspects and that "this would be the result only of the requirements arising from the development of the institutional political normalization process." The latter likewise constitutes a commitment worthy of being taken into account since the reforms in question--assuming that they are considered necessary in themselves--would then remain restricted to the temporary modality which would be adopted by the

return to constitutional normalcy, to the gradual stepping-up of the process of constituting authorities of an elective origin or similar aspects.

The Role of the Armed Forces

As the president of the nation announced in his recent press conference, the document does not contain any hint as to when that process would start although it had been given to understand with absolute clarity that one would be working toward that goal.

If not, then let us not talk about a democratic, republican representative system, although one would have to admit the vagueness which--as the case may be and according to the concepts that might be held by those who are interpreting the process--contains all kinds of unsuspected possibilities.

A president of whom one could only say that he will have to have "the attributes necessary and sufficient for the exercise of his authority" could in theory be a president for life. A national legislative branch of which one says no more than "it will be bicameral and made up of representatives meeting the requirements of suitability and responsibility adequate for the discharge of their functions," could--once again, let us say, in theory--be based on a makeup with corporatist roots.

We are not insinuating that this is the intention of those who drafted the document but we would have desired a little more precision in that document and in other matters, above all in a text of such broad range.

As for the role of the Armed Forces in the country's institutional future, there is one concept which calls for our attention. There is mention of their "institutionalized intervention in the government."

What does that mean? Does this imply that, in the future, and after the country has been "reorganized," we would be faced with the ostensible or implied existence of the Armed Forces in the jurisdictions of power which are not those of their specific incumbency (in other words, the defense of the country against foreign threats and the maintenance of national security against attempts at armed domestic subversion)? Would the Armed Forces forever become an "institutionalized" part of the Argentine public scene?

And if it means that, why? Out of what necessity? With what justification? The same by the way can be said about the certainly quite hermetic concept to the effect that the Armed Forces will have competence "in making decisions regarding the conduct of national strategy"--in addition to the fact that they have such competence in the matter of national security and the defense of the national constitution.

What does "conduct of national strategy" mean? This concept is extremely broad. It does not seem to refer to something purely related to war or

peace and, on the other hand, creates the impression that, as far as the drafters of the document were concerned, the nation, seen as a whole, is an entity which must subject itself to a "strategy," as if it were a military organization.

There are moments in a country's history--usually war and sometimes also great disaster--when that concept may temporary be valid.

Normally, however, the civilian sector of the population--in other words, the vast majority of the country and also the vast majority within the narrow circle of elites--must try to stay away from such a concept because otherwise it runs the risk of wiping out the civilian aspect and almost imperceptibly turning the entire nation into a military post.

Other Major Aspects

The part of the document directed against forms of totalitarianism, against populist and anarchic demagogy is of vital importance. The intention to have the judicial branch generally be made up of judges who reached their position through a judicial career is worthy of special mention. Relatively little is said about municipal government, at least concerning its elected origin. The concept of neighborhood participation is entirely too blurred to constitute a sufficient guarantee against the creation of small personal autocracies in the municipalities of the future which, as we know, are always the embryonary cells and the perfect school for democracy and the exercise of the regular art of relationships between the governing and the governed.

As for the political parties, the document emphasizes the multiparty system and the formation of what it calls--in various passages of the text--the "major, broadly representative parties." Perhaps the document should have been more precise also on that score.

Neither the administrations, nor those who draw the outlines of the plans for national reorganization--or the "bases" for such plans--are called upon to program the creation of big or little, representative or unrepresentative parties. The parties spring up spontaneously, under the protection of freedom of association for lawful purposes. The administrations in any case can prohibit those parties with respect to which the department of justice or other competent agencies rule that their ideas or their operating procedures run counter to the Constitution or the laws springing from the Constitution.

Another thing an administration can do is create an election system which would give a certain degree of preference to the representation of the big parties in the legislative branch and would thus prevent the atomization of the latter and a climate of inoperative anarchy which is sometimes brought about by an excessive number of parliamentary blocs.

But the parties--including the very small ones--can be very useful in a democracy, even though they may lack sufficient strength to get into the legislative branch. They can serve as a school, as a sounding board, as a platform for free expression and the debate of ideas; not to mention the possibility that those parties which have few members or sympathizers today might perhaps by tomorrow become mass parties. There have been such cases in the political history of the world, some of them brought happy memories and others did not. This is one of the risks connected with the benefits of democracy. As the passage in the document stands now, it reminds us of attempts to orchestrate the formation of so-called "parties," as happened in Brazil, with the well-known negative results.

No Mention of Inflation

Looking at the country's economic and social panorama, the document reveals too many, always generalized concepts which seek to offer something for everybody: The companies, the government, the workers--something which is not always possible.

There is no specific mention of the unavoidable need for fighting by all means against the scourge which is threatening the country with ruin, physical and moral ruin, that is, inflation.

Reference is made to this ill "in a contrary sense," that is to say, in connection with monetary and credit policy which is supposed to promote savings but in this fashion we are once again falling into something which, at the start of this article, we labeled as a Sunday sermon.

In view of the crisis which the country is going through, the expectation created by the advanced notices connected with the publication of this document, in view of the large size of the document, in view of the time it took to prepare it, one might have expected something more palpable.

Lanusse on Military Governments

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Dec 79 p 6

[Text] Salta (NA ["Argentine News" agency]). The former president of the nation, Lt Gen Agustin Lanusse, Ret., in his statements to newspapers, expressed critical opinions on the policy foundations announced last Wednesday, with regards to other matters, maintained, in talking about national economy management, that "Without a mandate from the citizenry, nobody has the right to make irreversible changes."

Regarding the existence of "deadlines without objectives" in the current process, the former commander-in-chief of the army asserted that this is just a cliché, an evasive formula."

Lanusse made these statements in a report published by the local morning paper EL TRIBUNO and in talking about the union association law recently passed he expressed the opinion that it is "restrictive" and that it may give rise to "the simultaneous existence of a legal labor union system and another, underground system."

In his opinion, on the other hand, the process of national reorganization "has harmed" the presidential institution while "the lack of leadership is today quite noticeable."

As for the policy foundations, he reiterated his conviction that the intent of the Armed Forces is "to establish a stable and secure democratic system and if there are any other intentions, they will fall by the wayside, as happened at other times."

"But the political proposal presented to the country," he added, after 44 months of military government does not explain either when or how. The rest we already know. What we are concerned with now is to get some clear language because the time for elections has not come."

1966 and 1976

Lanusse added that the circumstances which the country experienced in 1966 were very different from those of 1976. "In 1966 we did not have the kind of misgovernment that would justify military intervention as in 1976. What the military and the civilian wanted at the time was to bring about a basic change in order to put an end to the political mess," he pointed out.

However, "We lost time. In 1971 it was too late. All we could do was to call for elections in the hope of cutting the ground out from under the subversive activities which had spread during the 4 years prior to that."

The other difference between the two movements he pointed out "is that the second one had to win a war and, if it did win it, as we all believe, then there is no reason once again to lose time."

Irreversible Changes

In response to a comment to the effect that the measures taken by minister Jose Martínez de Hoz "are revolutionary and irreversible," he said that "Without a mandate from the citizenry, nobody has the right to make irreversible changes. The first military leader who governed this country, Cornelio Saavedra wrote: 'There is no doubt that the people is the one who confers authority or command. Governments sustained by mere force must not forget that they are temporary. It might happen that they initially have consensus but not to do just any old thing that comes to their mind.'"

He maintained that "The same phrase is repeated there: We have no deadlines without objectives. That is a cliché. An evasive formula. Objectives are either acceptable or not, they are either lawful or not, also in keeping with the deadline required. If, for example, in order drastically to reduce infant mortality, which is terrible in Argentina, you suggest 3 years, then I will go along, but if you ask 10 years, then I will oppose that."

He hinted that "An objective is never fully attained but only to the extent of 10, 30, or 50 percent at best. Besides, the very fact that we attain a goal projects us toward another, more distant goal."

Repeated Error

He termed the drafting of the military document rather "laborious."

It took--he continued--an infinite number of meetings of the Junta and the secretaries-general. We were told that everything had to be coordinated. In 1970-1973 we likewise made that mistake; when ideas were compatible, the words did not fit together or, the other way around; there is no way to make something compatible which is not compatible; this is like trying to square the circle. A shape is either square or circular; it cannot be turned from one into the other. All terminology is ambiguous and this is true even more so in this case when it was necessary to put in the concepts from three basic documents which in turn were discussed by the high commands of each of the Armed Forces.

He expressed the view that "The result was bound to be very different from what was intended and I am afraid that it will produce general disappointment."

He explained that "Between 1966 and 1973, the president was the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, as provided for in the Constitution.

"This time," he emphasized, "the national reorganization process actually harms the presidential institution, one of the most solid Argentine traditions. The absence of leadership is today quite noticeable. The government has no operational capacity, not just in routine activities. We faced an imminent belligerent conflict without a president who at the same time was the commander-in-chief."

Political Situation

Talking about the current national political situation, he said that "The politicians must do some fence-mending. This task will become too difficult for them if they have to follow certain provisions."

"The labor union association law is very restrictive and presages that the statute on political parties will be no less so. After all, let us not open our umbrellas before it starts to rain," he said.

He expressed his fear that this law "might lead to the simultaneous existence of a legal labor union and another, underground labor union system. The former would have a real shape and the other would just have a mask."

Prediction

He predicted that "the same could happen to the parties. In any case, I would like to know what political party would win the elections by defending current economic policy and by offering to continue it."

More Comments on Document

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 23 Dec 79 p 13

[Text] Leaders of various political groups released new statements about the Policy Foundations for the National Reorganization Process. In the meantime, the parties continue to analyze the document drafted by the Armed Forces in order, after completion of the analysis, to release their opinion officially.

Comment From Alfonsin

Posadas. Dr Raul Alfonsin maintained here that "The recognition contained in the policy document prepared by the Armed Forces, concerning the commitment to launch the country's democratization process, is a positive thing; that process has been widely demanded by the citizenry and especially by the Radical Civic Union."

Alfonsin was in Misiones and held many meetings with his supporters and with the representatives of organizations in the area. In statements to local newspapers, he pointed out: "The pace required to implement this process does not jibe with the country's urgent needs."

In this respect he noted that the document "does not state that the passage of laws providing the reorganization of the parties will not be started during the second half of 1980 but as of the second half."

"Nor does it say anything," Alfonsin continued to point out, "about lifting the political prohibitions, something which is very important. We must make sure that this will be a true and positive step and that it will not become a kind of understanding which the Argentine citizenry will not tolerate."

In further expanding on his analysis of the policy foundations, the radical leader expressed harsh criticism of the country's economic leadership. With respect to so-called civilian-military agreement, he said: "We must also take great care here because this is a concept which works in various ways, depending on the intention of the person who talks about it."

Comments From Progressive Democrats

Rosario. The leaders of the Progressive Democratic Party, Drs Jose Eduardo de Cara and Alberto Natale expressed their opinion on the document issued by the Armed Forces. Dr de Cara, who is the secretary-general of the national executive board, said: "The policy document of the Armed Forces constitutes a proposal for the attainment of the ultimate purposes of the national organization process. It is positive in that the thinking behind it springs from the national Constitution. It is a broad and basic document which must be compared to the thinking of the political parties and public opinion. It is necessary to make sure that the political forces in the future will be reorganized along modern lines and that they will be a real democratic school where statesmen and government officials will be trained."

Dr Natale, who is the secretary-general of the provincial executive board in Santa Fe, said: "The political philosophy behind the document coincides with the one that springs from the national Constitution. The instrumental bases do not indicate any deadline, except of course the indication that the legal system of parties would be approved during the second half of 1980. But this process, which supposedly has no deadlines but only objectives, has a time schedule of its own and, within that schedule, 1984 appears to be the key year in the transition toward democracy. The important thing is to make sure that this document will be analyzed seriously by all sectors throughout the land. This is not just another speech by a ruler, deserving applause or criticism, but rather an invitation for us Argentines to get together and analyze the points of understanding that will enable us to move toward a true democracy. A democracy, in other words, which will have nothing to do with the tragic and absurd years we have been going through."

"Contradiction"

FIP (People's Left-Wing Front) president Jorge Abelardo Ramos said that "The announcement of the political plan coincides with the reaffirmation of the economic plan repeated by president Videla. But the contradiction is quite striking: One cannot hope to have a stable democracy with an Argentine industry destroyed by imports, dumping and the mafia of private and banking usury."

In talking at a dinner, Ramos added that "General Videla without evasion condemned Peronism and the political plan announces new disqualifications and bans. Mr Videla said that, if Peronism does not change its nature, in other words, if it does not cease to be Peronist, then it cannot act in political terms. That takes us back to something very old, some old hatreds which the enemies of the people keep reminding us of." Finally, he called for the release of Isabel Peron and Lorenzo Miguel.

Comments from Dr Riva

The president of MARPROM (Alemnista Radical Movement for the Recovery of Moral Orientation), Dr Raul E. Riva, said that the Policy Foundations "in an absolutely clear fashion wipe away the false expectations created in an ill-intentioned manner in the rumor mills about corporativist intentions among the top military leadership or negotiations on presumed spurious election results with the failed political leaders from the evil epoch which we are now overcoming, whose final demise the document now expresses."

He adds that "We congratulate ourselves on our invariable attitude of support for the current process because those policy foundations spell out guiding doctrinaire and program ideas and instrumental means which mark a certain road that has to be traveled so that, at its end, we might find established an organic, authentically republican, representative and federal, strong, stable, and progressive democracy."

Comments From San Juan

San Juan (NA). Leaders of the Bloquista, Radical and Justicialist parties in this locality, through newspaper statements, disclosed their opinions on the political proposal from the Armed Forces and agreed that its content is positive.

The opinions were expressed by Ricardo Colombo, radical leader and former Argentine Ambassador to the OAS; Ruperto Godoy, a former governor of this province, a Justicialist; and Bloquista leader Federico Bravo, a former member of the San Juan legislature and brother of the current Argentine Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Leopoldo Bravo.

The radical Colombo maintained that "The great expectations among public opinion on these policy foundations has been fully justified.

"Personally, I think that some of the contradictory aspects have been overcome to a great extent in relation to the doctrinaire and program foundations whose expressions the documents explains and develops on fundamental points, such as those connected with the social economy and with legal and institutional aspects."

In the judgment of former governor Godoy, "This proposal calms the citizenry because vague statements on the position of the three services have been coming to us for quite some time."

The Justicialist leader added that the interservice document "has positive aspects because it is in keeping with the basic principles of the National Constitution, it recognizes the multiparty system, it talks in terms of respect for private property in a social function, and above all the principles which assure human dignity."

He also noted that "Although there is no hurry to get into elections in civilian circles, it is necessary to learn the terms or deadlines for this process."

Regarding the institutionalization of the Armed Forces in terms of their participation during the phase after the current process, Godoy said that "We have to know how this will be implemented in the future government."

Federico Bravo in turn expressed the opinion that "The foundations constitute the democratic statements that we have been waiting for" and that "any additional democratic political party can subscribe to them."

He furthermore pointed out that he considered the document "as a concrete step on the march toward the institutionalization of Argentina."

Elsewhere, Bravo said that "Peronism has felt that it had been affected here and refuses to change its color; this is nothing but a defense of totalitarianism against democracy which is a permanent discussion and reasoning effort for the country."

Warning Note Sounded

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 24 Dec 79 p 7

[Text] Following a dinner organized by the internal grouping by the name of Movement of National Intransigence of the UCR [Radical Civic Union], headed by former deputy Dr Ruben Rabinal, Dr Ricardo Balbin, chairman of the party's national committee, addressed 600 guests.

With reference to the policy proposal drafted by the national administration, Balbin said: "We have been waiting all this time in order to find the right climate for an overall analysis and for a dialogue without exceptions. We are now in the feasible phase featuring a spirit of reconstruction, no matter how, regardless of whether it is more or less broad since the important thing is that it take place."

Balbin added: "What we want is to make sure that this will not just be some sort of understanding. It does not matter when the voting will take place. The important thing is that everybody takes part. The important thing is for us rapidly and immediately to study the laws and positions required for the security of a democracy of the future on which we are all definitely in agreement."

"We will talk to each other, of course, we will talk to each other," added Dr Balbin, "about the organization of the political parties but we will think of this in terms of the last half of next year and also in terms of making sure that this process will be completed during the last half of next year."

Finally he said: "These things take time and it is very painful to think that there might be words of frustration during the decade of the Eighties because it might happen that I would not be here to talk to you about peace but that somebody might be talking here to you about war."

New Peronist Grouping

(NA). A sector of the Justicialist Party, including former minister Roberto Ares, in this capital established the so-called metropolitan Verticalist grouping which proclaims its loyalty to Maria Estela Peron as leader of the movement.

Former senator Juan Carlos Beni, who was among the 120 participants in this charter event, said that "We are and we assume the Peronist mentality which bothers Mr Jorge Rafael Videla so much."

In a press conference on 13 December, president Videla said that the Peronist Party will have no room in the democratic process if it maintains "that persistence in a personality cult and demagoguery."

In addition to Ares and Beni, the gathering was attended by the former quartermaster-general, Gen Jose Embrioni; former lady deputy Virginia Sanguinetti; and [local] leaders Daniel Adrogué, Ricardo Romano, Maria Eva Marcote, Hidalgo Viscardi, Juan Carlos Gomez, Mario Ruben Gonzalez, Salvador Timpanaro, Roberto Perez, Aldo Gasuseli, Julio Ramos (a brother-in-law of Lorenzo Miguel), Tito Prano, Alejandro Pandra, and Mario Gurioli.

The first speaker, Ricardo Romano, after proclaiming the leadership of Isabel Peron, said that "It would seem that, if we are to have a place in the political future, we Peronists would have to cease to be Peronists"; but he warned "We Peronists are many in number and we are winners and we are not going to transform ourselves into small numbers and losers."

Gen Embrioni urged everyone "to leave aside the personal and petty struggle which is counterproductive" and to "build the organization of Justicialism from the bottom to the top."

For Irma Paez, "No political agreement is possible without Isabel Peron," while Mario Gurioli maintained that "This is a process of impossible decline."

Juan Carlos Beni referred to the political proposal as "an ambiguous and imprecise document through which they proclaim the intention of affirming liberty and justice; but they forget that, during these past 4 years, they have been violating all liberties and they have been trampling upon justice." He warned that "Through the new labor union law, they are trying to destroy the worker movement" and he maintained that the only political proposal is "that the people should express itself amid freedom, by recognizing its sovereignty." He said that "We are and we assume the Peronist mentality which bothers Mr Jorge Rafael Videla so much."

Julio Ramos said that he would expressly refrain from any congratulations "because one cannot say such things when the people do not have liberty."

Virginia Sanguinetti expressed her astonishment at this political proposal; she rejected "gradualism" and said that "Peronism will not deal with a small segment of the establishment while the agencies of power remain in the hands of those who want the people to be nothing but an invited guest." She defined "verticalism" as the "historical continuity of the Peronist movement" and she asserted that "The first step necessary to get the dialogue going is the release of Isabel. With Isabel and other comrades who are prisoners and without the participation of the people, there will be no political solution.

Alejandro Pandra maintained that "They are trying to get the vast majority of the country to change its ideas so as to be able to discuss the vast national problems" but they only offer a place "to the enemies of the process."

Juan Carlos Gomez indicated that "Verticalism is in keeping with the orders of the Peronist movement directed by Isabel. That is our response to the trap represented by proscription."

Former minister Ares, who was the last speaker, referred to Mrs Peron as "a prisoner of war" and said that "The only thing the political proposal seeks to assure is 'succession' and, in response to that maneuver, there is only one thing for us Peronists to do and that is to fight."

Intransigents

(NA). The president of the Intransigent Party, Oscar Alende, delivered a document stating that the Constitution which "the Armed Forces promised to defend" does not allow any "lifetime paternalism."

The document, delivered last night to a party meeting, also points out that the Constitution does not allow "parallel administrations, super-administrations, or vetoes," alluding to the announcement of the Armed Forces regarding the institutionalization of their participation in the scheme of government.

Alende delivered the communique after the police had prevented him from speaking during the meeting, claiming that regulations in force prohibited political activities.

The meeting was held at a club in the Buenos Aires area; it was attended by the following, in addition to the party members as such: Party leaders Mario Ruben Gonzalez and Salvador Timpano, Peronists; Julio Amoedo, People's Conservative; Fernando Nadra, Rubens Iscaro, and Roberto Vallarino, Communists; Guillermo Frugoni Rey, Christian Democrat; Simon Alberto Lazara, People's Socialist; Victor Garcia Costa, People's Socialist; and the leader of the Peronist labor union movement, Roberto Garcia.

In the absence of speeches, there were two toasts. Alende welcomed the leaders of other parties and he especially underscored the presence of labor union leader Garcia. Raul Rabanaque Caballero expressed his best wishes "for the unity of the political forces in defense of democracy."

Alende also handed over a document dealing with the political proposal of the Armed Forces. Concerning the "Doctrinaire Foundations," he observed "total discrepancy with the concept to the effect that they constitute the first step in a vast process."

As for the institutionalization of the Armed Forces within the scheme of government, he maintained that "The Constitution, which they promised to defend, does not allow any lifetime paternalism," nor does it permit any parallel administrations, superadministrations, or vetoes. Under democracy, the people is the supreme authority.

Taking up the "danger of democratization as a military operation," he stated that "Democratization is regulated through decrees." He then examined "the danger of politization of the Armed Forces," as well as "the danger of 'fostering' and 'continuationism,'" remarking in this respect that "The concept of 'succession' reveals impressive stupidity."

In a critical review of economic policy, he maintained that "The minister maintains, without anybody challenging him, that his plan is the plan of the Armed Forces. This takes a lot of nerve and they are going to have much trouble in the future explaining that to the younger generations of officers."

Finally he issued a warning about the "danger of Argentina's isolation," asserting that "Our hesitation and delay will turn us into allies of Pinochet."

Comments From Various Parties

Santa Fe (NA). Former radical governor Aldo Tessio, Christian Democratic leader Jose Maria Rene, and a segment of the Santa Fe Justicialist Party came out against the policy foundations announced to the country by the Military Junta, according to statements revealed yesterday in this city.

Tessio assured his listeners that, without the exercise of popular sovereignty, "there cannot be any form of democracy" whereas the Christian Democrat Rene indicated that the document "should have come up with a sincere review of the phase which has just been completed."

One Justicialist sector, headed by Juan Martino and Mario Papaleo, came out against the intention of "institutionalizing an unpopular economic policy" and producing "individual and collective" proscriptions.

Tessio first of all expressed his "worry" over "some of the principles" spelled out in the proposal.

In his judgment, the military document "is the pretended institutionalization of the de facto government and therefore it is contrary to the sovereignty of the people without whose full exercise there cannot be any form of democracy."

He also criticized the fact that "Limitations were placed on dissent, that is to say, that the thinking of the minority that governs has the character of an incontrovertible dogma."

Consequently he said that "The people will not be able to achieve anything in the exercise of its sovereignty because the Armed Forces create a political commission for the future with supervisory and controlling functions and therefore the party platforms cannot go beyond the boundaries of their viewpoints, nor will the representatives of the people in the Congress of the Nation be able to exercise their constitutional faculties."

Rene maintained that "This is a document which closes a circle and opens up another one; it should have started with a sincere review on the phase that has just been concluded."

He asserted that "Since the doctrinaire document employs sufficiently broad language, the majority of the people are supposed to be able to agree with most of what the document says. But we already know, that in politics, words have meanings that depend on whoever is saying them."

He indicated that "As a political expression, it suffers from a contradiction; on the one hand, it announces long-term objectives and standards; on the other hand it talks about starting a transition which creates the idea of the more or less rapid retirement of one man and his replacement with another."

Finally, a group in the Justicialist Party emphasized that "These foundations disappoint the expectations that have been aroused because their language and content continue to be vague and imprecise whereas the hidden intention of institutionalizing an unpopular economic policy and the disclosure of individual or collective proscriptions are nothing but utopia even though they may be socially dangerous when they seek to become official government policy."

Peronist Support

Santiago del Estero. Former Justicialist Party gubernatorial candidate Dr. Francisco Lopez Bustos gave the press a statement referring to the policy foundations contained in the Armed Forces message as a "positive thing for the country's health. I refuse to doubt that there were ulterior

motives behind it. It seems that good common sense and moderation prevailed at last. We men with a political vocation have the obligation [illegible words in original], a kind of 'updating' which is why it is necessary to emphasize analysis, to develop self-criticism in depth, and to bring our doctrines up to date."

"Something irreversible has happened in our movement," he continued. "Its leader has disappeared and we must not forget his teachings and guidance when he said: 'First comes the fatherland, then comes the movement; and finally come men.' We have to think about the country's future above all."

Political Bans Attacked

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Dec 79 p 7

[Text] Felipe Bittel, deputy chairman of the Justicialist Party, said that "We oppose the proscriptions with the same determination that we proposed renewal" in speaking at the end of the cycle of dialogues organized by the National Club, a long-standing research center which consists of Peronists, developmentists, people's leftists, and Christian Democrats.

He maintained that "The worst misfortune for Argentina would be for one gang to win out over another one, as if the country were divided into two rival gangs--civilian and military."

He made it clear that he is not "anti militarist but it pains me that the military do not understand national problems."

During conversations with club members Arturo Frondizi, Eneas Spilimbergo, Enrique de Vedia, and Pablo Gonzalez Bergez, Bittel came out in favor of "the renewal of political parties," pointing out that "Many people, like I myself, want to go but going now would not be a renewal but rather a desertion."

He said that "We will not allow anybody, under the pretext of renewal, to try to impose upon us a decision as to 'This fellow is o.k., but that other one is not.' We will oppose political bans with the same determination we displayed in fighting for renewal."

He then emphasized that "The reorganization of the national leadership, on the basis of unity in terms of concept and action signifies one of the most important goals for the Justicialist movement."

In examining the recent institutional past, he commented that "They ousted Frondizi when he decided that Peronism will vote."

Concerning the policy proposal, he indicated that Justicialism created a commission in order to accomplish "an in-depth examination and to spell out its position" and he said that "All maneuvers that can be carried out from within or without the Justicialist movement in an attempt to divide it basically only serve the enemies of the process."

Daniel Adroque, one of the club members, said that "The priority objective of Peronism is to achieve the release of Isabel Peron"(NA).

Questioned on that score by a reporter from this daily, Dr Gonzalez Bergez indicated that he was not a member of the National Club and explained that he was at one time invited to come in order to answer questions on the current political situation although representatives of other groupings were not present at that time. In that connection, Dr. Gonzalez Bergez confirmed his well-known democratic position and his ...[rest of article missing in original].

5058

CSO: 3010

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

VIDELA MEETS NIGERIAN OFFICIALS--Mar del Plata, 17 Jan (NA)--President Jorge Rafael Videla met in the provincial hotel of this city this morning with a delegation of high-ranking Nigerian officials in order to eliminate once and for all the frictions that have recently emerged in the relations between the two countries and to strengthen bilateral ties. The meeting was held at 1100, 5 minutes after Videla arrived at the hotel by automobile from the Chapadmalal tourist resort, where he is vacationing with a group of relatives. The Nigerian mission, which is headed by the minister of foreign affairs, Patrick Bolokor [name as received], was already waiting for Videla on the fourth floor of the hotel, after having arrived in this city by airplane from Buenos Aires at 0900 in the company of the foreign relations ministry under secretary, Col Carlos Cavandoli. The fact that Videla interrupted his vacation to meet with the Nigerian mission proves the importance of the meeting. According to the official report, "The state of Argentine-Nigerian relations was studied with the intention of strengthening bilateral ties between the two countries." Relations between Nigeria and Argentina seriously deteriorated last September when a group of Nigerian diplomats and administrative employees took the residence of the Argentine ambassador in Port of Spain, Trinidad-Tobago, by assault, holding Ambassador Jorge Cash and his family as hostages for a few hours. [Excerpt] [PY171721 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1530 GMT 17 Jan 80 PY]

GRAFFIGNA TO VISIT CHILE--Buenos Aires, 15 Jan (TELAM)--Lt Gen Omar D. Graffigna, commander in chief of the Argentine Air Force, will travel to Chile next Friday. It was reported that during his stay in the neighboring country, which will last until Sunday, 20 January, the commander in chief of the Argentine Air Force will hold talks with his Chilean counterpart, Gen Fernando Matthei. This visit will reciprocate the one paid by the Chilean air force commander in chief to his Argentine counterpart in Bariloche at the end of last October. On that occasion the Argentine Air Force commander in chief indicated that it was a meeting of two friends, each of whom had a great responsibility in his own country, who were trying to find points of agreement and solutions to current problems in these times of dialog. He added that "through these meetings we are trying to fulfill the desire of the pope, who has asked for the utmost efforts to find a fair and

honorable solution for the two countries, a desire which is also shared by all Argentines and Chileans." [Text] [PY161128 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2000 GMT 15 Jan 80 PY]

RELATIONS WITH GAMBIA--The Argentine Foreign Ministry reported today that the Argentine Government and the Republic of Gambia have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of 15 January 1980. [PY181237 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2245 GMT 15 Jan 80 PY]

AMBASSADOR TO BARBADOS--Buenos Aires, 15 Jan (NA)--The Foreign Ministry has reported that the Government of Barbados has approved the appointment of Juan R. Aguirre Lanari, current Argentine ambassador to Venezuela, as concurrent ambassador to Barbados. [PY181237 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2245 GMT 15 Jan 80 PY]

EDWARD HEATH ARRIVES--Edward Heath, former British prime minister, arrived yesterday in Buenos Aires on a private visit. While he is in the country he will visit ministers and members of the private business sector. [PY181237 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Jan 80 PY]

EEC LIFTS TAX--Buenos Aires, 17 Jan (TELAM)--As a result of negotiations conducted by the Argentine Meat Board, the EEC has granted Argentina an initial quota of 5,000 tons of meat which can be exported to Europe without the variable tax [prelievo] that the EEC had levied to protect local cattle-ment. The initial quota is for the so-called Hilton cuts and will be paid at approximately \$7,000 per ton. [PY181237 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2025 GMT 17 Jan 80 PY]

SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION--A delegation of South African fruit growers is visiting the province of Mendoza. During their stay in this province they will discuss the high taxes fruit producers have to pay in order to sell their products in the EEC. [PY181237 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 17 Jan 80 PY]

VISITING FRENCH SHIPS--Buenos Aires, 17 Jan (TELAM)--The French helicopter cruiser Jeanne d'Arc and the escort Forbin, carrying naval cadets who were visiting Argentina, have left Buenos Aires for their next stop, the Chilean port of Punta Arenas. [PY181237 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1258 GMT 17 Jan 80 PY]

OIL EXPLORATION--The national executive branch has authorized Government Oil Deposits (YPF) to carry out oil exploration in the 21st area of the northeast basin located in Salta Province, near the Bolivian border. This area has approximately 1,771 square kilometers. [PY181237 Buenos Aires LA OPINION in Spanish 16 Jan 80 p 9 PY]

ANTARCTIC MISSION--Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (NA)--Two navy ships, "Almirante Irizar" and "Bahia Aguirre," have left the port of Buenos Aires for the second stage of the summer 1979-80 Antarctic campaign carrying supplies and replacement personnel for the Belgrano army base. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2120 GMT 8 Jan 80 PY]

NEW HYDROELECTRIC PLANT--The new Los Divisaderos hydroelectric plant has been inaugurated in Santa Rosa, La Pampa Province, on the Colorado River, with a power of 10,000 megawatts per hour. [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 6 Jan 80 p 14 PY]

AMBASSADOR APPOINTED--San Martin Palace sources have reported that the Bahamas Government has agreed to the appointment of Juan Aguirre Lanari as concurrent Argentine ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Bahamas. [PY111329 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 10 Jan 80 PY]

GOVERNOR RESIGNS--Mendoza, 10 Jan (NA)--The provincial government announced that Governor Sixto Fernandez has submitted his resignation due to personal reasons. [PY111329 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2315 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY]

CSO: 3010

NATIONAL CONGRESS PRESIDENT LUIZ VIANA FILHO INTERVIEWED

Rio de Janeiro MANCHETE in Portuguese 22 Dec 79 pp 110, 111, 113

[Interview with Senator Luiz Viana Filho, president of the National Congress, by Haroldo Hollanda: "Presidential Succession in Brazil Has Always Ended in Crisis"; date and place not given]

[Text] For some time Senator Luiz Viana Filho, president of the National Congress and one of our most experienced politicians, has been insisting upon the need for a climate of political reconciliation so that the nation can devote its energies to the struggle against the economic crisis that now engulfs us as a result of the successive increases in petroleum prices that are upsetting the world economy.

Luiz Viana Filho is in favor of direct elections for governor, but thinks that process should not be followed in choosing the president of the republic. He falls back upon both recent and more bygone history to show that direct presidential elections have always served, openly or disguisedly, as the cause of profound political crises that eventually undermined national democratic institutions themselves.

He considers the parliamentary system of government to be ideal, but does not know whether Brazil is in a position to practice it, in view of our circumstances. He is afraid that if we try to introduce parliamentarism it would eventually produce a crisis similar to that occurring during the Goulart administration, when we had a mere caricature of the parliamentary system.

In this exclusive interview with MANCHETE, the president of the National Congress denies that the government intends to "Mexicanize" the political process through recent party reform and supports creation of new parties.

[Question] Former Deputy Mario Covas, president of the Sao Paulo MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement], compared Article 2 of the party-reform bill to Institutional Act No 2, which did away with the previous political parties. Do you think that dissolving the ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] and the MDB is characterized by violence, as some leading opposition figures would have us believe?

[Answer] A measure that was freely voted by Congress could hardly be considered violent. Each one gave his opinion, discussed it and eventually voted on the bill. A violent measure would be an arbitrary government measure or any act that is not done in a legal way. Anything done within the law, according to the law, cannot be considered an act of violence. So I do not think the act of dissolving the parties, or the government's initiative for this purpose, can be considered a violent act. It is merely a political act.

[Question] Would it not have been more natural to let the parties be organized according to their natural tendencies, without this implying elimination of the ARENA and the MDB? Why did the government insist so strongly upon extinction of the ARENA and the MDB?

[Answer] I think abolition of the parties will result in exactly that--the parties being organized according to their natural tendencies. We must not lose sight of the fact that the ARENA and the MDB were created arbitrarily at the difficult time that followed Institutional Act No 2, when President Castello Branco was especially committed to giving the nation a constitution. At that time the only way to do this was by an act permitting creation of a limited number of parties. That is how the ARENA and the MDB came to be.

Not the Slightest Risk of Political Retrogression

Hence, they did not represent natural or ideological beliefs of a given moment. They merely united congressmen in favor of the government or against the government--which was not a natural attitude and, essentially, was a situation that could not be perpetuated, because governments change, persons' positions also change and, frequently, these persons eventually feel confined within a party, unable to free themselves from an initial movement such as that of 1965 and to which many persons would have to remain shackled without being able to freely choose the path they prefer within the nation's political life. I believe the great virtue of abolishing the parties will be exactly that of permitting emergence of these natural forces that exist today in any political society.

[Question] Do you fear a political retrogression? Or won't that be likely in the current phase of political liberalization?

[Answer] I do not fear any political retrogression, if only because the president of the republic has repeatedly declared his intention to establish a democratic regime in the nation. So there is no reason for us to

think about political retrogression at present. Rather, we must think, we must desire and we must collaborate for Brazil to gradually, day by day, improve its political system.

[Question] Do you favor holding direct elections for governor starting in 1982? Or do you think the 1982 election should still be indirect?

[Answer] These questions are not always easy to answer. Politics is a phenomenon that depends very much upon circumstances. There is no politics without circumstances and, hence, without opportunities. We may be favorable to a measure today and not tomorrow when the circumstances change. I have always favored direct election of governors--and this, moreover, has been the objective of the Revolution itself since 1965. Now, various conditions prevented such elections from being held by the direct process, which is more democratic. And hence the preferable process for choosing the nation's governors and, especially, the process in which the political class has greater participation, greater opportunity to assert itself.

[Question] There are many politicians, in the MDB as well as in the ARENA, who advocate the need for a government of national unity so we can confront the economic crisis without major political conflict. Would you also favor a solution of this nature? Or do you think that there are insurmountable obstacles to a movement of national reconciliation?

[Answer] I know there are elements in the ARENA and in the MDB who proclaim the need for national unity. I have been advocating this--not with that designation of national unity, which perhaps is too broad and is so far not justified and would be difficult to carry out--since 1968, as has been amply reported: the opportunity or the appropriateness of having a climate of national reconciliation. I believe that events, especially those of an economic nature, that were and are accentuated by the petroleum crisis, make it more necessary every day that we put aside awhile the exacerbation of political struggles and adopt measures that often are painful and unpopular, but that are certainly indispensable for Brazil to overcome the present situation, especially as a result of external factors. So, if it were possible to establish a climate of agreement, a climate of political truce, I think this would be highly beneficial to the nation.

Direct Election of President Has Been Cause of Crises

[Question] Are you for or against reestablishing direct elections for president of the republic?

[Answer] I am accustomed to saying that what I like the least is having opportunistic ideas; that is, to think one way today and, for whatever reason, think differently tomorrow. Just as I have been favorable to direct elections for governor, I have also repeatedly over the years expressed myself against direct elections for president of the republic. This is because of the experience that the history of the republic affords us. On all occasions when a struggle was being waged in Brazil, a presidential succession

marked by radicalism, the consequences were generally harmful to the nation. We can see this since the time of Rodrigues Alves, when there was the revolt against compulsory vaccination, but which was nothing more nor less than the aftermath of the political struggle in which Senator Lauro Sodre, also a military man, had been engaged against the elected president. Later, in Rui Barbosa's "civilista" campaign, which had as its consequence a period of agitation throughout the entire term of Marshall Hermes [da Fonseca]. Next, in Nilo Pecanha's campaign against Artur Bernardes, which overflowed into the revolutions of 1922 and 1924. In 1930 we had the campaign of the Liberal Alliance, the struggle between candidates Getulio Vargas and Julio Prestes. The result was the 1930 Revolution. Finally, we had the deposition of President Getulio Vargas, his suicide, with all the grave consequences this occasioned for the nation. Hence, I do not believe it would benefit the political and social life of Brazil to try, at least at the present stage of our culture, to have a direct election for president of the republic.

[Question] Senator Paulo Brossard, the most faithful disciple and follower of Raul Pilla's civic opinions in Congress, supports the idea that all the nation's political ills since the republic was founded resulted from the presidential system and supports the need for Brazil's adopting a parliamentary system of government. Do you think there are possibilities for parliamentarism in the present stage of national political activity?

[Answer] The parliamentary system, recommended not only by Senator Brossard but also by a large number of political science experts, is perhaps the ideal system. It has given the best results in several highly civilized countries, such as the Scandinavian nations, as well as England and Germany. But I do not know whether in Brazil's present stage, in which we are inaugurating a new democratic way of life--we are still at that stage that Octavio Mangabeira called a "tender plant"--whether a parliamentary system, with all that it could represent, would have possibilities of stability. That is a big problem. I would not consider the parliamentary system itself, but the parliamentary system within the context of Brazil's current situation. I think that at present it would be premature for us to try this. Of course, we had an attempt at the parliamentary system during the Goulart administration, an imitation of the parliamentary system, which did not benefit either the presidential system or the parliamentary system, because what we really had was a caricature of parliamentary government. For that reason I fear that without the proper and suitable conditions we will repeat the same mistake with, naturally, the same damaging consequences for national life.

[Question] Are you for or against legalizing the Communist Party?

[Answer] I believe it would be highly inappropriate. The Communist Party, clearly, does not intend to maintain democracy. It would merely use the weapons given it by democracy not only to carry out a subversive campaign but also, if and when it succeeds to power, to destroy the democratic system. So I see no appropriateness or need, nor any opportunity, to legalize the Communist Party.

[Question] You are among those in Congress who support adopting subparties after party reform. In a multiparty system, doesn't the subparty represent an odd and artificial element that could even undermine party unity in the short run?

[Answer] I think there has been a slight misunderstanding in regard to subparties: they are merely a political measure that does not involve doctrinal principles and would not refute any democratic postulate. It responds, in all parties--not only in the government party but also in parties the opposition may form--to a major national reality, which is the political system of the municipalities. It allows persons who want to participate in a party at the federal or state level to have different candidates for local elections. That is a need that everyone knows exists. It is not a fiction; it is not an invention for the purpose of dividing or creating difficulties. On the contrary, it removes difficulties for all parties. I believe the subparties will be essential for strengthening the parties. I do not know whether they can be abolished in the long run. Clearly, the ideal would be their disappearance, once we have gone beyond this stage in which politics in the nation's backlands--the politics of the municipalities--is still very personalistic. It would be hypocrisy to say that there is no personalism in municipal politics. There are groups, factions that gravitate around certain persons. And this requires the subparties as an escape valve so the different groups can get along together within the same party without muddying the municipal waters.

There Is No Intention to 'Mexicanize' the Political Process

[Question] There are those who see in the party reform to be established soon the intention to "Mexicanize" our political process. Do such fears have any basis?

[Answer] I do not think the government ever had any intention of "Mexicanizing" the Brazilian political process. It is doing a grave injustice to the Revolution to say that in any of its phases it had any intention of creating a single dominant party--which seems to me to be the sense in which the expression "Mexicanization" was employed. I remember well that in 1965 when Institutional Act No 2 was announced, abolishing the parties, and later, when a Complementary Act established the conditions for creating the new parties, there was a great effort by the government to facilitate emergence of the MDB. It was not easy for the MDB at that time to meet the established conditions. But the government's desire that a single party not be formed in the nation was so great that President Castello Branco was even about to announce another complementary act easing the requirements for forming new parties.

[Question] In recent weeks the National Congress experienced a climate of political exacerbation that was visible in its smallest actions. Don't you fear that this is a very strong indication that the nation is headed toward growing political polarization?

[Answer] I believe this exacerbation was merely temporary. I do not believe it will either endure or lead to polarization. I believe emergence of several parties, of the multiparty system, will contribute to the disappearance of this so-called climate of polarization.

8834

CSO: 3001

BRAZIL

POPULAR REVOLUTIONARY VANGUARD LINKS WITH LEBANON CHARGED

Israeli Allegations

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 26 Dec 79 p 13

[Article by Mario Chimanovitch: "Israelis Allege VPR Guerrilla Training in Lebanon"]

[Text] Jerusalem--A group of young Brazilian extreme leftist militants belonging to the Popular Revolutionary Vanguard (VPR) have just arrived in Lebanon to begin a course of training in guerrilla and sabotage operations in a Palestinian camp belonging to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), a radical Marxist organization headed by Dr George Habash.

This report was featured yesterday in the Israeli newspaper YEDIOT AHARONOT, in an article filed by its London correspondent, Yohanan Lachav, who gave as his sources Western intelligence circles and in particular British expert on terrorism Robert Moss, who in turn is responsible for the highly regarded "Intelligence Bulletin" in the periodical THE ECONOMIST.

No Proof

Robert Moss, who attended an international conference on terrorism held in Jerusalem a few months ago, said on that occasion that the "diplomatic establishments of Libya and Iraq in Brazil were responsible for the financing of the activities of subversive groups in various Latin American countries." When questioned by the correspondent of JORNAL DO BRASIL in that same period, the British expert, although he insisted his statements were true, would not supply any substantial or conclusive evidence to support his claims.

"Close Links"

According to the report in YEDIOT AHARONOT, the Brazilian VPR has maintained "close links" with the Palestinian revolutionary group since 1971, and the contacts were pursued and deepened during Rubkhai Haloum's stay in Rio de Janeiro in that period as unofficial representative of the

PLO [Palestine Liberation Organization]. Haloun himself, again according to the Israeli newspaper, was arrested in Amsterdam in 1972 when the authorities there discovered that he was one of those mainly responsible for traffic in weapons and explosives between the Netherlands and Brazil, as well as other countries in Latin America.

But it was not until 1977, YEDIOT AHARONOT reported, that the VPR concluded a "tactical alliance" with the PFLP, thanks to which Brazilian militants would be trained in camps along with units belonging to the organization headed by Georges Habache. The first group of Brazilian revolutionaries--the Israeli newspaper did not specify how many there were--went that same year (1977) for training at an PFLP camp located in Libya. This expedition, YEDIOT AHARONOT went on to say, was organized by Tahsir Kuba'a, one of the operational leaders of the Habache group. On that occasion, militants belonging to the Chilean Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) were also trained at the Palestinian camp in Libyan territory along with the Brazilians.

YEDIOT AHARONOT also stressed that the representative of the PLO in Brazil now, Farid Sawan, is responsible for drafting plans designed to promote the training of young Brazilians of Arab origin in Palestinian camps in Lebanon and other countries in the Middle East. The Israeli newspaper did not explain what the purpose of this training would be, in other words whether the young Brazilians of Arab origin would be trained to promote a revolution in their own country, Brazil, or would join, like the Iranian volunteers, in a Palestinian war against Israel.

YEDIOT AHARONOT reported moreover that this plan was drafted by Farid Sawan's predecessor in Brazil, Salah Zawai, through the establishment of cells the initial activity of which was said to be sponsoring the collection of money and political mobilization in the Arab-Brazilian community to further the activities of the PLO in the country. The Israeli newspaper concluded with the statement that the selection of the young Brazilian militants to be trained in the Palestinian camps "is made by Tassh Abdel Halabi, who is the head of PLO operations in Brazil."

Editor's Note: Early in 1974, then-Minister Shimon Perez stated that JORNAL DO BRASIL had been purchased by the Arabs.

Report Denied

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 27 Dec 79 p 14

[Text] Brasilia--The Itamaraty Palace stated yesterday that the information provided by Robert Moss, published in the Israeli newspaper YEDIOT AHARONOT, and reprinted yesterday in JORNAL DO BRASIL, to the effect that the Popular Palestine Liberation Front is training individuals affiliated with the Popular Revolutionary Vanguard in Brazil "does not seem reliable."

A Brazilian diplomatic spokesman, adviser Bernardo Pericas, on stating the position of the Brazilian Foreign Office yesterday, commented that "as far as we know, this terrorist organization no longer exists." The Libyan ambassador, Bashir Khalil Fadel, told JORNAL DO BRASIL that the Brazilian government is well aware of the activities of his embassy, and he categorically denied that it financed or is financing subversive movements in South America. The embassy of Iraq denied the charges in a statement to the press.

Plan Drafted

Libyan Ambassador Khalil Fadel expressed extreme irritation yesterday at the publication of the report circulated in Israel, stating that it was a part of a plan drafted by the Israeli secret service (Mossad) with two objectives:

"First of all, they are frightened by the good relations between the Arab countries and Brazil and they invent these things in an attempt to create problems. They will not succeed. Another aspect is that the Zionist government of the so-called state of Israel has serious domestic problems, because the people will no longer tolerate its dictatorship. Thus they need to invent lies for domestic consumption, to keep the people occupied and to make them forget their demands for a better life. They are feeling the forces closing in on their terrorism."

Ambassador Fadel said that he has nothing against the Jews in general. "We are of the same race. But what I do not accept is this word--Israel--and the Zionist terrorist principle."

According to Ambassador Fadel, Robert Moss, whom he consistently called "Moses," is a Mossad agent, who must invent lies about the Arab countries. "Now they are determined to attack Libya and Iraq, because they know that these are the two countries most radically opposed to the so-called Camp David agreement. But it is all lies. Do you think we are in a position to finance political organizations opposed to the Brazilian government without Brasilia's knowing about it? This is idiocy."

In his view, the Arabs have 200 million persons for the fight against Israel and do not need Brazilians for the purpose. But he chose not to respond to the charges against the PLO and other Palestinian organizations.

"The PLO has an office in Brazil and that office has a head. We do not need to defend it. Mr Farid Sawan is the representative of the PLO and he speaks for it."

The representative of the PLO in Brazil, Mr Farid Sawan, had not been seen in Brasilia since Tuesday evening. No one knew his whereabouts and the office of the Arab League was closed yesterday. There was no one at Sawan's

home. At the embassy of Iraq, moreover, it was stated that there is no Tassih Abdel Halibi, head of PLO operations in Brazil.

The preceding day, however, an individual answering the telephone at the Arab League, after confirming that Sawan was in Brasilia, was asked about Tassih Abdel Halibi. This person, who did not identify himself, hesitated briefly and then said he did not know the home telephone or address of Halibi, but did not deny his existence. Previously, there had never been any reference to this representative of the PLO in Brazil, either officially or unofficially.

Iraqi Response

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 27 Dec 79 p 14

[Text] "Under the headline 'Israelis Claim VPR Is Training Guerrillas in Lebanon,' an article dispatched by its correspondent in occupied Arab territory, JORNAL DO BRASIL, in its 26 December 1979 issue, carried an article and comments bringing up once again the statements made by Robert Moss, who is responsible for the publication of the 'Intelligence Bulletin,' in the periodical THE ECONOMIST, to the effect that 'The diplomatic missions of Libya and Iraq in Brazil were responsible for the financing of the activities of subversive groups in various Latin American countries,' a reiteration of what had been published some time ago.

The press section of the embassy of the Republic of Iraq categorically denied the statements contained in these allegations and recalled that rumors had earlier been invented and published on the same subject by some Brazilian press organs.

Last July, this press section stated that the invention of these lies was entirely consistent with the aggressive and terrorist plan used by the Zionists engaged in terrorism in our Palestinian land, occupied for some years, with the most barbarous crimes being perpetrated by the Zionist terrorist organizations.

"And it is to confirm the truth about Zionist terrorism that we believe the attention of everyone should be brought to what was stated by the Zionist leaders about the methods adopted by their organization with a view to implementing their plans in our occupied Arab territory:

1) Menachem Begin said: "The national entity is a very important thing. We must do everything to establish it at all costs and using any methods, even if to do so it is necessary to eliminate the entire enemy population, expelling and dispersing it. And we must not hesitate to use these methods if they lead to a decisive result, that is if they serve our purpose of establishing this entity" (quotation from the book "The Ashil National Military Organization," p 246).

II) Another leader, David Ben Gurion, said: "We are issuing appeals for peace in the evening, so that we can attack the Arabs and surprise them in the early morning hours" (interview published in the periodical BAMJANIAH, 29 February 1961).

Combining all this, the press section of this embassy is well aware that everything published in the press containing reports fabricated at the Zionist headquarters will have no effect, because the obvious truth condemning Zionism and its racism and terrorism on all levels became even more far-reaching, particularly in connection with the historic resolution of the UN on 10 November 1975 which deemed Zionism a form of racism and racial discrimination, despite the fact that Brazil voted in favor of it.

Moreover, we believe that the pertinent Brazilian authorities are aware of who it is who practices, and has practiced, terrorism in Brazil and Latin America.

This press division regrets the damaging campaign which has been pursued by certain Brazilian press organs, intentionally or otherwise, designed to defile the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our Arab people and the friendly people of Brazil.

But the press division of this embassy praises and thanks all free journalists for the firm position they have adopted toward our just causes and for refusing to be influenced by lies and propaganda."

Editor's Note: Mario Chimanovitch is the Middle East correspondent of JORNAL DO BRASIL.

5157

CSO: 3001

BRAZIL

PREPARATIONS FOR FIRST AMAZON PACT MEETING IN PROGRESS

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Jan 80 p 21

[Text] Brasília--The Itamaraty Palace has already begun preparations for the first meeting of the foreign ministers of the eight signatory nations of the multilateral cooperation treaty on the Amazon region, known as the Amazon Pact, which was proposed by Brazil and signed last July.

Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro is seeking the agreement of the other foreign ministers to set the date of the meeting for the beginning of the second half of 1980. La Paz, Bolivia will probably be chosen as the site of the gathering.

According to information from experts at the Itamaraty Palace, the agenda for the first meeting of Amazon nation foreign ministers will be lengthy, ranging from a joint policy of fiscal incentives to joint programs for the agricultural and forestry development of the region. Brazil already has various research projects in the Amazon region, and Venezuela also has research bodies working on projects pertaining to the region's soil and climate.

In addition to agricultural and forestry uses, the overall planning of transportation and communications systems, which are practically non-existent in the Amazon region, will be discussed. This is a sector to which the governments of the eight countries involved in the Amazon Pact will have to devote special concern.

Limitations

According to information from diplomats at the Itamaraty Palace, matters pertaining to the utilization of the Amazon basin will not be discussed at this first meeting. According to these sources, a false association is being made with the utilization of the Plate River basin, which led to conflict with Argentina with regard to Itaipu, which could hardly occur in connection with the Amazon region.

The justification is that the use of the water resources of the region for the building of hydroelectric plants would be an extremely difficult task. The rivers located in the frontier areas of the Amazon region boast no waterfalls. Only the Negro River has some rapids. The diplomats also note that in addition to being flatland rivers, utilization of their water resources would be uneconomical due to the great distances from urban centers.

The very origins of the Amazon Pact are to be found in the universal inclination toward proper treatment, based on cooperative agreements, of certain hydrographic basin problems. The problem is particularly pertinent for Brazil, since government technicians recognize that in addition to the Trombetas aluminum and the iron and gold found in Carajas, the Xingu, Tocantins and Tapajos Rivers have the energy potential of several Itaipu projects.

Another aspect to be considered is the fact that in some cases, such as with regard to the Amazon River itself, the headwaters lie outside our country. In addition to this, of the 10 international frontiers Brazil has, 7 lie almost entirely within the area drained by the Amazon River. They total 13,976 kilometers, or almost 80 percent of the 16,396-kilometer total of land frontiers, including the boundary line with Bolivia, in the Plate River section.

In the opinion of the Itamaraty Palace, the importance of relations with the Amazon nations is increasing day by day. In less than a decade, trade exchange has increased from \$187 million, in 1972, to \$750 million, in 1977, representing an increase of 400 percent in 6 years.

The Amazon Pact is also designed to reserve the responsibility for the fate of the area for the nations in the region, making status as an Amazon nation the best defense against the development of internationalization maneuvers. The occupation of the Amazon region, in the spirit of the treaty, as well as the definition of the techniques for agricultural or forestry exploitation and the approval of the proposals of private enterprises will continue to be decisions within the exclusive scope of each government.

The pact is also designed to allow the signatories to develop a technology for exploitation suited to the equatorial jungle, without recourse to solutions provided or sold by the industrialized countries in exchange for future profits from the area.

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BRAZIL

NETTO DISCUSSES IMPACT OF RECENT ECONOMIC MEASURES

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 9 Dec 79 p 49

[Interview with Minister-Chief of the Planning Secretariat of the Presidency Delfim Netto]

[Text] Brasilia--"I regard an understanding that the economic policy is consistent with a more open democratic approach as fundamental, because we are also pursuing a more open economic approach, with more competition, more efficiency, more links with foreign countries."

This statement was made by Planning Minister Delfim Netto with regard to the measures announced by the government on Friday and followed by a long statement to the nation by President Figueiredo. In this exclusive interview with O GLOBO, Delfim Netto explains and analyzes the reasons and expectations of the government in relation to these measures, with the authority of one who has in fact coordinated the government actions representing, in his own words, "a radical change in the structure of the Brazilian economy."

O GLOBO: What reasons led the government to adopt the measures announced by the president of the republic on Friday?

Delfim Netto: These measures, as President Figueiredo said in his address, supplement those adopted earlier in the monetary, fiscal and wage sector. They represent the completion of the drafting of the economic policy which will be pursued as of 1980.

Basically they mean the reestablishment of the monetary policy eliminated by Resolution 432. They further represent resumption of the foreign exchange policy which was also abandoned in this process of adjustment and improperly called mini-devaluation. Thus it was necessary to effect a somewhat greater adjustment to make it possible for us now to return to our work in tranquility, making use of real rates for the mini-devaluations in the future.

Along with this, a serious problem was resolved with the great simplification of the import system. Compulsory deposits were eliminated, while at

the same time IPI [finished goods tax] and ICM [tax on movement of merchandise] credit for exports was ended. Matters are clearer and thus the price system will make better allocation of the factors possible.

It is important to understand that this change in the exchange system is the result of a drastic change in the structure of the Brazilian economy. We have actually had a profound structural change, on the one hand to adapt the economy to the oil shortage, and on the other, to adapt to much-accelerated export needs.

It is necessary to understand that we faced a structural rather than situational imbalance which could not be dealt with in terms of any other type of action.

O GLOBO: And what are the expectations with regard to this reorganization?

Delfim Netto: The hope now is that in 1980, with recovery in the monetary, fiscal, wage and foreign exchange policy, we will really be able to reduce inflation and the trade balance deficit, making agriculture, production to replace energy sources and exports the locomotive forces for the economy.

O GLOBO: This means that the government is basically trying to resolve its problems in terms of the balance of payments.

Delfim Netto: Yes, basically we are seeking relief in the balance of payments.

O GLOBO: Won't the policy of combating inflation suffer?

Delfim Netto: No, because we are also reestablishing the monetary policy since, after Resolution 432, there was none, properly speaking. It was the Resolution 432 depositors who established the monetary base. Thus we decided to free the resources on deposit and eliminate them once and for all.

O GLOBO: In practice, what did the end of Resolution 432 mean?

Delfim Netto: What happened was the following: those who paid their debts, paid.

O GLOBO: And what about those who didn't?

Delfim Netto: They will not get their money back. They will continue making normal payments.

O GLOBO: Won't this cause dissenting reactions?

Delfim Netto: No, because for individuals who have made deposits to pay their debts, the debt will be regarded as settled. There will not even be any further responsibility to the creditor.

O GLOBO: How will the country benefit from this measure?

Delfim Netto: It will make exports more competitive and reestablish control over the export policy, and, in the final analysis, the monetary policy.

O GLOBO: With these incentives, will there be a substantial increase in the already announced goal of exports totaling more than \$20 billion U.S. next year?

Delfim Netto: When we set this goal, we already knew that these measures would be approved. As few people knew of these intentions, they thought the goal was exaggerated. I believe we will reach an income total of \$20 billion U.S. from exports in 1980.

O GLOBO: Will the government announce still further measures in the economic sector in the short run?

Delfim Netto: No, now we have really finished. We have all the adjustments practically completed.

O GLOBO: Will the devaluation of the cruzeiro lead to increases for oil products?

Delfim Netto: No, it will not affect oil products, because we already took this devaluation approved on Friday into account during the last increase, at the end of November.

O GLOBO: It was said that these goals would not be announced until next year. However, the government decided, in view of the situation, to go ahead earlier. Is that true?

Delfim Netto: No. The actual thinking was to make all of the adjustments before this year ended, so that we could begin 1980 with all of the tools reestablished. Moreover, this is an important aspect needing explanation. What really happened was that in the course of the past few years, we have been losing our mastery of the tools of economic control. The monetary policy was lost with Resolution 432, and fiscal policy disappeared because we drafted laws so perfect that no one paid taxes any more. The exchange policy lapsed because the structural imbalance could not be offset by mini-devaluations alone.

O GLOBO: What were the results of this situation?

Delfim Netto: Everything was reversed. The foreign interest rate was higher than the domestic rate, throwing the system out of balance. It was no longer possible to encourage exports, and there ceased to be any control of the wage policy, because the laws were revoked during the discussions.

O GLOBO: What steps were taken then?

Delfim Netto: In the past four months the government has recovered the tools of economic control. It drafted a wage policy law, and recovered the fiscal, foreign exchange and monetary tools.

O GLOBO: With all of this accomplished, what are your expectations for 1980?

Delfim Netto: We will have a good decrease in inflation and we are proceeding toward a reasonable equilibrium in the trade balance. These are the two goals. Once this is achieved, everything will move along proper lines and will advance.

O GLOBO: Will these economic measures be reflected in the way the political detente is pursued?

Delfim Netto: I regard an understanding that the economic policy is consistent with the process of a more open democratic approach as fundamental. Finally, we are pursuing a more open economic policy as well, opening up the economy, making it more competitive, more efficient and more open to foreign trade.

O GLOBO: This would mean the development in the country of a willingness to export everything possible.

Delfim Netto: This is true. This is what we want, because this is the only way to pay the tax which the price of oil has become.

O GLOBO: Do you believe that these measures will contribute to alleviating the exacerbation of social problems developing in the country?

Delfim Netto: I do not believe that there is exacerbation. In fact, the situation is difficult and cannot cease to be that.

O GLOBO: Why not?

Delfim Netto: Because people refuse to understand what happened. We must pay a tax--resulting from the energy crisis--and no one wants to pay.

O GLOBO: Do you continue to oppose rationing, although other countries have adopted it?

Delfim Netto: No one is implementing rationing. Those which adopted this system were thinking more of the psychological effect, because it lasted a very short time. Rationing is the most inefficient measure there is. If it worked, the price system never would have been invented. For the more primitive man is, the more he favors rationing. The market economy of the future is a sophisticated system. It is true that you can say that it is

not the most just. I agree. But rationing means the law of the club. Whoever has the biggest one wins.

O GLOBO: Will this new policy lead to unfavorable reactions on the international level, more specifically with regard to our European and American partners?

Delfim Netto: On the contrary. We are eliminating all the ICI and ICM incentives and premiums for export, since the maxi-devaluation was effected to simplify the whole system, to make the whole more flexible.

O GLOBO: How can the prices of oil products fail to rise, since there was a maxi-devaluation?

Delfim Netto: When we ordered the increase for gasoline in November, we already included this increase in the exchange rate.

O GLOBO: What about the reports that Iran will exert pressure on its customers to pay for a part of their purchases at the free market price?

Delfim Netto: All of this is poppycock. Some things in that country are madness: they develop, die, develop again without any reason. Absolutely none of this is fact.

O GLOBO: Isn't it possible that this close link between the prices of oil products and realism in the exchange sector will lead to constant increases for fuels?

Delfim Netto: No, it will continue to be as we have planned: adjustments twice a year. When there is an increase, the foreign exchange mini-devaluations will be calculated, obviously. But we hope that each new increase will be smaller than the last. It must be understood that prices will not drop, but will increase less.

O GLOBO: Has the government shown that, basically, its concern is focused on alleviating the trade balance deficit?

Delfim Netto: The measures were adopted basically to achieve this. It is not possible to continue financing domestic consumption and investments by increasing the foreign debt. This is the great problem. But we also had the financial flow in mind. It depends basically on the domestic and foreign interest rates. If the domestic interest rate is not higher than that abroad, the flow of capital cannot be maintained. Now with the lapse of the monetary policy and the need to undertake inflationary corrections, i.e. with the structural problems linked with the balance of payments, there was no longer any way to make the economy work.

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BRAZIL

EFFORTS TO INCREASE TRADE WITH PRC INTENSIFIED

Foreign Ministry Policy

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Jan 80 p 22

[Text] Brasilia--For 1980, the Itamaraty Palace is drafting a more dynamic strategy for relations between Brazil and China. With the choice of Minister Elcio Pires to serve as commercial attache at the embassy in Beijing, Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro was categorical. "We need to exploit every possibility of exporting to the Chinese market, ranging from traditional products such as sugar to shoes and other manufactured goods."

Before being assigned to Beijing, Pires served as head of the transportation and communications division at the Itamaraty Palace, and it was he who negotiated the navigation treaty between Brazil and China signed during the visit paid to Brazil in May by Chinese Vice Premier Kang Shi'en, the highest authority to visit the country. In 1979, no fewer than eight Chinese delegations visited Brazil to explore trade and cooperation possibilities in the hydroelectric, oil and oil chemical, farm products, nuclear energy, metallurgical, coal, pharmaceutical supplies and fertilizer sectors.

With the opening of the Chinese economy to foreign trade since the rise of Deng Xiaoping and Hua Guofeng to power, China has dispatched many missions to visit foreign countries with a view to studying the potential for economic cooperation. Within this context, the Itamaraty Palace wants to begin to reap the fruits in 1980 of the work of rapprochement done during 1979.

The reestablishment of diplomatic ties in 1974 was slow in yielding its first positive results because of the lack of systematization in economic relations. After the signing of a trade agreement in January of 1978, the first steps were taken toward a more dynamic policy, culminating in the five-year agreement signed during an official visit paid by Minister Ueki to Beijing in November of 1978.

This agreement represented a step forward in bilateral relations, not so much in terms of the initial figures for 1979 and 1980 but because Brazil was the only developing country to sign a long-term contract with China. In 1978, Brazil supplied [text of original illegible here] tons of iron ore, and will ship double that in 1980. In the years to come, the possibilities will be even greater, for the effects of a plan to expand metallurgical production from the present 24 million tons to 60 million tons by 1985 are already being felt.

Rio Doce Valley Company experts estimate that even filling a modest portion of the Chinese ore requirement, Brazil could sell 15 million tons per year. The distance factor works against Brazil, particularly because of the nearness to China of Australia and India, which are also large iron ore producers. However the excellent quality of the product, with a content of 57 percent, as well as the Japanese preference for Brazilian supplies, also work in Brazil's favor. This latter factor is important because Japan has signed a contract to expand China's metallurgical park.

Along with this, Brazilian diplomats also see China as a potential market for the gradual placement of pig iron, an export product which has suffered from protectionist pressures in the EEC and the United States (the U.S. government recently approved a surtax of 24 percent on supplies of this product from Brazil). The agreement signed calls for an initial supply of 200,000 tons per year, to be increased in the subsequent years, since Australia, the traditional supplier of pig iron to China, cannot meet a demand which came to about 2 million tons in 1969.

The agreement also calls for the immediate delivery of 25,000 tons of cast iron, 50,000 additional tons of sugar and 40,000 tons of other metallurgical products. In exchange, Brazil purchased 20,000 barrels of heavy oil per day in 1979, with plans to increase imports to 30,000 by 1980, at OPEC prices, without surtaxes or spot market purchase requirements.

With the signing of the navigation treaty in June of last year, the Itamaraty Palace believes that an important step has been taken toward intensifying bilateral trade, because one of the problems has been the great distance between the two countries, making freight costs higher. Apart from dividing the transportation of goods equally between ships flying the two flags, the agreement allows Brazil to make use of the Chinese merchant fleet, at least in the first years, thanks to the clause giving preference over vessels flying the flags of other nations.

The Itamaraty Palace is searching for a practical plan for combining vessels to exchange ore for oil, sugar for pharmaceutical products, and coal for metallurgical products. Along with this trade in basic primary products, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry is studying the possibility of marketing manufactured products and even consumer goods on the Chinese market. With a population of 900 million and a gross national product of

\$450 million, making per capita income \$500, even a small part of this consumer market represents important trade for Brazil.

Bilateral trade has not yet reflected the diplomatic rapprochement and the potential of the new economy, one of the hindrances being the chronic shortage on the Chinese side. In 1977, China imported goods worth \$162 million, selling goods worth only \$400,000. And in 1978, the situation remained the same, with purchases by China of goods worth \$180 million and sales worth only \$650,000. In 1979, however, with the initial purchases of oil by Brazil, the Chinese deficit dropped substantially, but the Itamaraty Palace has not yet announced the figures.

The strategy of the Itamaraty Palace for 1980 is designed to include imports of increasing quantities of oil, coal and pharmaceutical supplies to encourage China to purchase more food products, iron ore and metallurgical products, and to begin importing manufactured goods. With the maxidevaluation of the dollar, the Brazilian product is 30 percent cheaper, making it more competitive.

The exchange of business and governmental missions is expected to continue, because China assigns great importance to personal contact. Two Chinese ministers, Li Chang, of the petroleum industry, and Tang Ke, of the metallurgical industry, have already accepted invitations to visit Brazil in 1980. On the Brazilian side, the trade development department at the Itamaraty Palace has made contact with private businessmen and leaders of state enterprises to identify trade opportunities. Minister Elcio Pires, who will go to Beijing next month, will thus take with him a detailed summary of the developments Brazil is interested in pursuing in China.

Transfer of Technology

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 21 Dec 79 p 29

[Text] Businessman Figueiredo Ferraz informed President Joao Figueiredo during an interview at the Planalto Palace yesterday that talks between his enterprise and the government of China with a view to the transfer of technology in the engineering sector of various businesses in that country, including the hydroelectric sector, are well along.

In commenting on this matter, the spokesman for the Chinese embassy, Xiao Sijin, said that his country will build the Three Gorges hydroelectric plant on the Yellow River, with an energy capacity in excess of that of Itaipu (and thus the largest hydroelectric plant in the world), with the utilization of technology already developed by Brazil being an important factor.

According to this Chinese diplomat, in the second half of this year alone, three Brazilian business missions have visited China in order to verify the

potential for participating in business undertakings or transferring know-how and services.

He said however that he could not say if any of these missions had to do specifically with the Three Gorges hydroelectric plant.

As a result of the talks by one of these missions, Persico Pizzamiglio signed a contract to export to China 30,277 tons of longitudinally seamed steel pipe designed to carry water and gas.

This information came from the enterprise itself, which had earlier sent 5,000 tons of steel pipe to China on approval. The directors of Persico Pizzamiglio, who were members of the mission, believe that China is now a promising market for our domestic industry.

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BRAZIL

TWELVE PERCENT PAY HIKE APPROVED FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Brasília CORREIO BRAZILIENSE in Portuguese 29 Dec 79 p 8

[Text] Military personnel will have an increase of 12 percent on the adjustment granted recently, in 2 stages (25 percent each), effective in January and March, in accordance with a decree signed yesterday by President Joao Baptista Figueiredo.

This decree was released by the Planalto Palace early in the afternoon, and the press undersecretary, Alexandre Garcia, explained that the purpose of the adjustment is to make military pay more realistic, with the elimination, on the other hand, of some of the various supplements to which they were entitled.

The increase granted yesterday, it is estimated, will give an admiral, who currently earns 25,324 cruzeiros, 28,365 cruzeiros as of January, thus serving as a base for all the branches.

According to the spokesman, just as the military benefited from an increase in pensions on retirement, the president recently approved a measure making it possible for civil servants to continue to enjoy some of the same benefits when they retire as they did while in active service.

This comes within the policy of the current government designed to guarantee income on retirement consistent with compensation while in active service. The same is the case with ambassadors, whose salaries were adjusted. Garcia called attention to the fact that there are cases in which an ambassador on retiring received about 17,000 cruzeiros, "and it is distortions such as this the president is seeking to correct," he concluded.

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BRAZIL

CONCEX OFFICIAL SEES 1980 EXPORT GOAL AS VIABLE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Dec 79 p 19

[Text] Porto Alegre--The executive secretary of the National Council of Foreign Trade (CONCEX), Paulo Vellinho, said yesterday in Porto Alegre that he sees no great difficulty in the achievement by Brazil of the goal of exporting goods worth \$20 billion by 1980, "an increase of \$5 billion over the \$15 billion to be achieved in 1979." He warned, however, that some requirements must be met: improvements in transportation, involvement of multinational companies, and sizable farm harvests.

"Despite the temporary problems in the world economy and the existence of a tendency toward recession in some countries," he said, "Brazil can increase its exports, because it is still playing a very limited role on the world market. The Brazilian contribution comes to only 1 percent and can be increased to something like 1.4 percent."

He warned, moreover, that exports will only increase if the country can in fact improve the transport flow to fulfill the export program without any lag, if foreign multinational enterprises participate massively in the export effort, "in view of the short-term results they can offer," and if Brazil has next year "spectacular farm harvests, so as to be able to supply the domestic market with certainty and accumulate exportable surpluses."

Paulo Vellinho termed the criticisms by some politicians who say that "we are exporting enough and must give priority to the domestic market" to be without substance. In his view, "this kind of position is inconsistent and lacks a technical foundation, for export is in fact a path of the greatest importance to ensure the strengthening of the domestic consumer market, to mobilize idle sectors, with a low level of new investment, and to create jobs, which in turn activates consumption."

Misunderstandings

The secretary general of the CONCEX declined to go into detail about reported misunderstandings with the personnel at the CACEX [Foreign Trade

Department], but he said he did not believe that certain government sectors have failed to carry out the decisions of that body, "because in fact the success of the activities of the council is of direct interest to the government." He stressed that the success of the government itself is closely linked with that of the CONCEX, and "to accept its failure would be to accept the failure of a good part of the government, for it is made up of seven ministers, officials of the Central Bank, Bank of Brazil, CACEX and four businessmen." As to the failure of that body to participate in the drafting of the last "economic packet," Paulo Vellinho said he was not surprised "because there were few who had access to the formulation of it."

Paulo Vellinho said that 1980 will be a difficult year for the Brazilian economy. In the first quarter, there will be the adaptation to the measures to correct inflation and control the economic sector recently adopted by the government, and beginning in April, if there are no new developments in the world economy and if these measures are consolidated, "we will see a trend toward stabilization in our economy, including a decrease in inflation."

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NEW FOREIGN POLICY EXPLAINED IN FOUR ARTICLE SERIES

Policy Toward Arab Nations

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Dec 79 p 4

[Article by Walder de Goes: "Pragmatism Leads to a Greater Rapprochement With the Arabs"]

[Text] In recent weeks, Gen Golbery do Couto e Silva has devoted himself to discussing with selected persons the alternatives for an intensification of Brazilian foreign policy contacts with the Arabs. Not always have the conversations by the chief of the civilian household been aimed at the production of government policies because very often he allows himself the luxury of unbiased intellectual speculation. In this case, however, other reports are linked to this one that indicate that the government is determined to act daringly and propose a special relationship between Brazil and the Arab petroleum-producing countries.

The Brazilian interests to be served within the framework of special relationships would go beyond simple guarantees of petroleum supplies. In large part, unless there is a serious disturbance of world peace involving the Arabs, Brazil has supplies guaranteed in the medium term. What is desired in return for a foreign policy favoring the Arabs is a favorable price and an increase of Brazilian exports of goods and services on a scale that will allow the reduction of Brazilian deficits in its accounts with the countries supplying it with petroleum.

An increase in contacts with the Arabs would mean the radicalization of the pragmatic nature of our foreign policy. The great principles which guide international coexistence are important but Brazilian foreign policymakers believe that they must give way to positions dictated directly by the difficult economic situation the country is undergoing. The reduction of petroleum costs, following that line of reasoning, could become the main foreign policy objective. The installation of a PLO office in Brasilia, for example, is not a high price. Authorization will be given but obviously it is not enough. Thus, although there is not yet a specifically formulated program, the "Arabization" of Brazilian foreign policy will take place, pursuant to the thinking in Brasilia, along three main directions:

1. The orientation of foreign policy activities, including through votes cast in the United Nations, to favor Arab interests, including the Palestine question. That guideline could mean a reduction in Brazilian commitments to the cause of Israel, with side effects in the relations between Brazil and the United States.

2. Intensification of bilateral and multilateral contacts with the Arab petroleum-producing countries, seeking to win their trust, including on the basis of personal relationships between Brazilian authorities and Arab leaders.

3. Upgrading the principal Brazilian embassies in Arab petroleum-producing countries to the geostrategic level given, for example, to the embassies in the large Latin American countries. The appointment of Gen Samuel Alves Correa as ambassador in Baghdad has that purpose. The embassy in Iraq, as well as the embassies in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Libya will be considerably upgraded in the number and quality of personnel.

Trust

Up to 1973, the Brazilian position with respect to the Middle East, despite our bonds to the thinking of the U.S. Department of State, inspired the trust of the Arabs. Contacts were good and personal relationships were excellent.

The breakdown in that trust has a long and dramatic history. It begins with Saudi Arabia itself and with the Brazilian mistake, which still prevails, of trying to talk to the Arabs in a language with an economic context. Arab interests are primarily political, based on the Palestine problem and the regional dispute among countries. They need merchandise and technical assistance but above all they need the power and legitimacy deriving from relations with the world for resolving their regional problems.

In 1974, the minister of foreign affairs of Saudi Arabia, Omar Al Sakaffi, came to Brazil. It was precisely he who had taken Nogueira Batista before Faisal the year before. Sakaffi, a powerful adviser to Faisal, wanted to talk about politics and wanted a Brazilian position which would be in keeping with Saudi favors to Brazil in case there were to be an embargo. However, an agenda was prepared in Brasilia which brought him together with Simonsen more than it did with Silveira, more on economy than on politics. Moreover, Silveira's agitation prevented the issuance of a joint communique with even a minimum Brazilian support for the Arab positions, and Sakaffi returned disillusioned to his country. He died subsequently but there remained among the Saudis the impression that Brazil was an ally who was too dependent on the United States.

Volunteers

Still in 1974, Saudi distrust spread to Kuwait. Subsequently, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jabir Sabah al Sabah complained about the votes cast in the United Nations by Brazil in defense of Israeli interests. In addition to the votes, an explosive problem arose: Kuwait accused Brazil of lending soldiers to the Israeli Army for fighting against the Arabs. Itamaraty emphatically denied the charge but then Brazilian newspapers published an interview with Brazilian volunteers wearing Israeli uniforms in the Sinai battlefields. The breakdown in trust became a fact which also involved Iraq, Libya and Algeria. The anti-Zionist vote cast by Brazil in the United Nations in 1975, attenuated that distrust but did not eliminate it.

One new fact, certainly known by the Arabs, increased the distrust of Brazil. During the entire Geisel administration Minister Mario Henrique Simonsen tried to promote a special alliance between Brazil and Iran, something like an "Iranization" of Brazilian foreign policy, using the United States, particularly Henry Kissinger, as a liaison. The idea was to greatly expand business with the Shah so that Brazil would be primarily supplied with Iranian petroleum. The plan was not successful (and many people in Brazil today sigh with relief), but some Arab countries must have again noted that tendency of Brazilian foreign policy.

U.S. Relations Deteriorating

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Dec 79 p 4

[Article by Walder Goes: "Differences Between Brazil and the United States Cause a Rift Between Them"]

[text] Relations between Brazil and the United States have remained strictly static since the inauguration of General Figueiredo. No observer can indicate one single event throughout 1979 which has caused some important change in those relations. However, expectations are that some action will be taken, and from all indications the forthcoming results of the talks between Washington and Brasilia are going to contradict the analyses current in 1977 and 1978. A swing of the pendulum was expected: Geisel promoted controversy and raised the temperature of bilateral relations to the maximum; Figueiredo was to have come to put out the fire and reestablish the traditional bonds. That should not happen. The prospects for 1980 indicate the moderate restoration of controversy or at least the maintenance of the status quo.

Brazil lost its importance for the United States and the United States lost its importance for Brazil. The golden era of Nixon and Kissinger favored the indications that Brazil would become a power in the short term and that bilateral Brazilian-American relations would become the basis for the South American policy of the United States. Nixon and Kissinger departed, and Carter initiated the controversy with Brazil with his policy of human rights and nuclear nonproliferation. Some commercial skirmishes later, and the Brazilian decision to reduce its dependence on the United States, completed the framework of the rift. It was a bad situation. Both countries needed to put on a show of political struggle to enhance their new national direction and they chose the wrong time to quarrel because even though Brazilian-American relations no longer have the importance they had in the past, they are vital in the broader picture of the global strategy of the East. It is for that reason that the idea of a new controversy is examined with caution in Brasilia.

At the beginning of the Carter administration, the American diplomatic establishment still harbored two concepts about Brazil: that it was an important country within the framework of U.S. inter-American policy, and that it was a country susceptible to pressures from the U.S. Department of State. That is why Carter, Vance and other high officials came here, and that is why diplomats such as Warren Christopher came to Brasilia using a language laden with presumption that the Brazilians would give way to pressures on the issue of the nuclear program. Illusions were dispelled. Brazil is less vulnerable and is also a less important in Latin America for the policy of the United States. Mexico, because of petroleum and geographic nearness, and Venezuela, because of petroleum, are more important countries. Moreover, Brazilian development was curbed and its dependence on imported energy seems to have postponed the promise of power to another century. Therefore, Vance now goes to Mexico and Venezuela, and even to the Andean countries, but does not come to Brazil. The new policy of the State Department is based on the presupposition that even the Andean countries have a positive potential greater than that of Brazil.

Also at the bottom of the new U.S. analysis is the presumption, correct after all, that Brazil substantially changed the old ideological contents of its foreign policy. As Brazil diversified its foreign relations and as the energy shortage leads it to "Arabize" its position, drifting away from the U.S. policy toward the Middle East, the automatic alinement with the United States went down the drain. And it was not only a matter of the automatic alinement: the relative alinement itself became, and is becoming, increasingly difficult. There have been many instances where Brazil has shown that it can act on its own reasoning and stand on its own feet in the field of world politics. Its position with respect to Angola and Formosa in the recent past, and the position toward

the Nicaraguan crisis this year, proved to the State Department that Brazil takes actions in world politics without synchronizing its positions with its American friends. Very well, if it is no longer a docile ally and it is also no longer the promised South American leader, Brazil then becomes a country without great importance for the United States.

The opposite is also true. The diversification of foreign relations drastically reduced bilateral trade in relative terms. The Brazilian decision to modernize itself technologically encountered the opposition of its former great ally. The problems of petroleum, which inflate the Brazilian foreign debt, cannot be resolved by the United States, and will probably require anti-American positions which will please the Arabs and insure a preferential treatment with respect to supply, price and trade. Now, official Brazilian thinking in view of those facts is that the United States is not a vitally important country for Brazil either. The fact is also considered that Brazil needs to remodel its Latin American policy in view of the petroleum problem (Venezuela and Mexico) and in view of the need to broaden the horizons for our export products.

One of the instruments for Brazilian policy in Latin America is certainly the creation of a climate different than that in which Brazil is presented as a subalternate imperialist power.

Furthermore, Brazilian policy in its reorganization phase wishes to obtain advantages from abroad but also wants to adapt to domestic policy objectives. When Secretary of State Cyrus Vance came to Brazil in 1978, he told me at the home of the then ambassador, John Crimmins, that the process of political democratization in Brazil would be a favorable factor in Brazilian-American bilateral relations in the sense that it would create new areas of cooperation. Within that concept there was the idea, not rejected by Vance when it was mentioned, that a more open political system in Brazil would give the American diplomats a greater capability for pressuring Brazilian authorities. Very well, democratization came but the petroleum crisis also arrived and there came other factors which distracted Brazil from its policy toward the United States. The opening came but now there also comes the need for a domestic nationalist mobilization, prescribed in Brasilia as a factor for national unity capable of rallying the scattered political base of the regime.

Realistic Latin American Policy

Sao Paulo o ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Dec 79 p 6

[Article by Walder Goes: "Now, a Realistic Attitude Toward Latin America"]

[Text] The major reason for the failure of President Geisel's Latin American policy was the persistence of the illusion of the Brazilian economic miracle inherited from the Medici administration. The illusion of the miracle led to unrealistic concepts. President Figueiredo, in his rapid advance in the field of Brazilian relations on the continent, benefitted from the collapse of that dream, therefore, his continental policy appears to be a realistic response to the accumulation of problems in the country. The various interpretations of the times of the Brazilian situation also affected the foreign policies of all recent governments. Brazil was a rich country, according to Medici. Therefore, we could allow ourselves the luxury of the ideological choice of partners. Brazil is a developing country, according to Geisel. Therefore, it was possible for us to broaden our foreign relations, but not very much. Brazil is a poor country, according to Figueiredo. Therefore, we need relations with all countries and we need to explore areas not yet explored.

If Brazil is a poor country, if over its head hang the specters of petroleum and this problem aggravates the chronic crisis of the balance of payments requiring the greatest exporting efforts, it would be necessary to look toward those markets which we have not yet exploited intensively. And, if our dependence on the Arab countries in matters of petroleum increases, if these countries are thousands of kilometers away from Brazil, and if they were to become a potential zone of international conflict, then it is necessary to provide geographic alternatives which are closer and politically stable. Furthermore, the United States, Europe and even Asia are areas in which the framework of power is defined. Penetration there is more difficult, business there is conditioned by political rigidity. In opposition, Latin America and Africa are areas of decentralized power over which there are no very well defined hegemonies.

Business with Africa is under way. Since the change in Brazilian position with respect to the Portuguese colonies, there have been no political obstacles to be removed to facilitate penetration. Therefore, for all these reasons, the time has come to intensify relations with Latin America and to seek to effect regional solutions capable of compensating for greed and avoiding the dangers of more distant markets. Latin America, together with the Arab petroleum-producing countries, became the priority target of the Figueiredo administration foreign policy and the original path he intends to follow to give it the seal of his originality. To evaluate that priority, it is enough to list the

events of last November: President Morales Bermudez of Peru came to Brazil and met in Brasilia with the Andean Pact Council; the question of Itaipu was resolved; the Costa Rican minister of foreign relations visited us; Figueiredo went to Venezuela; the Mexican secretary of foreign relations came to Brazil, the forthcoming visit to Brazil by President Lopez Portillo is being negotiated; and the visit by Figueiredo to Argentina, Paraguay and Chile was announced.

The priorities of Brazilian foreign policy for Latin America refer basically to three countries: Venezuela, Mexico and Argentina. In more general terms, it can be said that Brazilian strategy seeks to improve Brazilian relations with the democracies of the north, beginning with Venezuela, and expand its trade with the south, emerging from the previous frozen condition. In addition to that, it seeks to accentuate the identity of the subregions, creating ties with the Andean countries, the Caribbean and the Southern Cone. With respect to Venezuela and Mexico, it seeks to buy more petroleum and sell more Brazilian goods and services on the basis that there will be no radical deficits in the balance of trade. The policy toward Argentina seeks to recover a former partner, since bilateral relations are commercially promising and there is a wide spectrum of common resources to be exploited.

The instruments of such a policy are obvious. It is necessary to encourage the multilateral aspect of relations because participation in regional organizations such as SELA [Latin American Economic System] and the Andean Pact create an atmosphere which favors bilateral trade. The multilateral formula, on the other hand, accents the democratic nature of relations and creates commitments of adjustments among democratic regimes. Such commitments will be useful for the democratic construction to which Brazil wishes to devote itself domestically.

Throughout past years, preconditions were created. The drifting away from the United States positively affected the view that Latin America had of Brazil. The theory of a subaltern imperialist vanished. The lessening of political tensions on a domestic level increased continental trust in Brazil, particularly as the military makeup of the Brazilian government decreased, showing that our expansionism would not be accomplished by force of arms. Expansionism by economic means was denied by the decline in national development. If we do not have petroleum, if we have to pay high prices for it abroad, the theory of power is not feasible and the theory of Brazilian intentions of hegemony become obsolete. Brazil continues to be a power but it was hurt by petroleum, moreover, it democratized its regime, reducing military power. Therefore, that giant is not so dangerous and for that reason the Venezuelan, Peruvian, Argentine and Colombian fears gave way to a movement of acceptance. Moreover, because of the Nicaraguan issue, its independence with respect to the United States was emphasized. By breaking relations with Somoza and quickly recognizing the Sandinist government, Brazil announced within the continent itself that it was standing on its own two feet with respect to Latin American politics. By doing that it paid off the mortgage of its participation in the inter-

American force, which intervened in the Dominican Republic, winning continental trust for itself.

Figueiredo's Policy

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Jan 80 p 6

[Article by Walder de Góes: "Figueiredo Government Practices
Immediatism"]

[Text] The singular aspect of the Brazilian foreign policy of the Figueiredo Government lies in the radicalization of the position which Brazil began to acquire under the government of Ernesto Geisel: the suppression of ideological contents, in other words, the changing of the ideological precepts which guide the international relations of the country. That process can also be understood as being the replacement of radical inflexibility by an exaggerated pragmatism. To the degree that it is immoderate, that pragmatism is wreckless because an exacerbated immediatism bypasses principles and that bypassing affects the foundations of the international credibility of the country.

Under Medici, the historical commitment of Brazilian foreign policy was intensified. Brazil was an island of peace and prosperity and the construction of this great power was to take place within the framework of the commitments which desired the country to be a bulwark of world anticommunism. The affirmation of national interests was conditioned by that ideological blockage and it prevented us from going beyond an automatic alignment with the United States.

Medici said that the world was strictly bipolar. While the United States represented the affirmation of capitalism and freedom, the Soviet Union represented the option of communism and slavery. Any action not in keeping with the American position was an irremediable betrayal of the cause of capitalism and freedom. Therefore, we could not talk to Africa, Asia (and particularly the Middle East), Europe or even Latin America. The United States would do so in our name. We were the champions of anti-communism and that is why Brazil was the champion against Cuba.

The driving force of its foreign policy was the seeking of antiterrorist resolutions in the inter-American gatherings. Bilateralism became the best way to implement foreign relations because commercial interests were thus assured and we did not submit to pressures, particularly those of the Third World, for the creation of pacts which opposed the interests of the countries with a central economy.

The original contribution by Geisel to foreign policy, despite its well-known disasters, was a new concept of the idea of protecting the national interest. In the first year of his administration, a discrete position was maintained and then ideological discussion was attenuated, later breaking with the bipolar concept and with rigid ideological divisions. The mistake was radicalism, the radical swing of the pendulum toward areas of contradiction. Our concept of nationalism went on to mean defense of national interests to the exclusion of foreign interests instead of a search for adjustment.

In the end, the Brazilian steps in Africa (the case of Angola), in Asia (the case of the Arab countries, Formosa and the anti-Zionist vote) and in Europe (case of the nuclear agreement with Germany), no longer required the mediation of the U.S. Department of State. Even so, in at least two aspects, Geisel did not completely follow his own orientations. On one hand, he did not abandon his preference for the bilateral method. On the other, he did not make his acceptance of ideological pluralisms general. In Africa and the United Nations it was possible to accept pluralisms but not in Latin America. With respect to Cuba, the most that Geisel ever did were some abstentions in OAS voting. It was at the end of that government--with Brazil already affected by the harmful effects of the cost of petroleum--that some steps were taken in multilateral policy.

Figueiredo is traveling along that path and he is extending it in the acceptance of the multilateral aspect. He consummated the Amazonic Pact, draws closer to the Andean Pact and reactivates Brazilian participation in SELA, toward which Brazil maintained a reticent position because the body is a Venezuelan and Mexican invention, and even more so, because the United States does not participate in it and Cuba does. The acceptance of pluralism is intensified by Figueiredo. It is true that he does not accept Cuba for imperative reasons of domestic military type, but the position of Brazil with respect to Nicaragua, quickly recognizing the Sandinist government in Managua, had the same effect in Latin America as the quick recognition of the MPLA in Angola had in Africa, of signifying the acceptance of ideological pluralisms.

The adoption of multilateral methods for handling foreign policy has a direct relationship with the acceptance of ideological pluralisms on the domestic and foreign levels. In Brazilian history, foreign policy accepts the multilateral when the winds are liberal, and it rejects them when the winds are authoritarian. The acceptance of liberal commitments domestically, led Brazil to LAFTA [Latin American Free Trade Association] and under Kubitschek it produced the Pan-American Operation and then the Inter-American Pact, which gave birth, under John Kennedy, to the Alliance for Progress. Now, since Brazil is beginning

to open its political system, incorporating into the system some aspects of liberal commitment, it is possible to accept pluralism in Latin America, as in the case of Nicaragua, and relations with the democratic northern part of South America are emphasized.

8908

CSO: 3001

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

ARMED FORCES STAFF CHIEF--General Jose Ferraz da Rocha will be installed today as new chief of staff of the armed forces at a ceremony to be held at 1600 at Planalto Palace. Newly appointed Finance Minister Ernane Galveas will also assume his post during the same ceremony. [PY181117 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 Jan 80 PY]

NORTHEASTERN DROUGHT ENDING--Recife--According to official information released by the superintendency for development of the northeast (SUDENE), the drought which had affected 513 counties in eight northeastern states is ending in three states. The report states that situation has practically returned to normal in Bahia, Sergipe and Piaui as a result of strong and sustained rains which have been falling since the beginning of this month. [PY181117 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 Jan 80 p 8 PY]

MALIAN MINISTER ARRIVES--Brasilia--Lamine Keita, Malian minister of industrial development, has arrived in Brasilia to discuss with local officials the possibility of Brazil prospecting for oil in his country, as well as other issues. [PY181117 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Jan 80 p 25 PY]

CSO: 3001

CHILE

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA--Alberto Besa Allan, Chilean ambassador to Kenya, has ended his tour in that country and is now back in Chile. He will assume his duties as Chilean Ambassador to Venezuela next week. He replaces Ambassador Rigoberto Diaz. [PY171151 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Jan 80 PY]

FOREIGN INVESTMENT FIGURES--The National Foreign Investment Committee has approved a total of \$4,241,000,000 in foreign investments for Chile. This is proportionally the highest investment figure in Latin America, which shows the high degree of interest in investing in our country. This \$4,241,000,000 represents financing for 421 programs of which 80 percent involve mineral exploitation programs. The rest involve industrial, agricultural and fishing programs. [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 15 Jan 80 PY]

AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS--The agriculture minister has reported that Chile has increased its agricultural exports by 800 percent in the last 6 years. [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Jan 80 PY]

AIRFIELDS IN ANTARCTIC--Punta Arenas, Chile 15 Jan (AFP)--Three Chilean ships are loading supplies and equipment for a trip to the Antarctic for the purpose of building airfields. The ships are also carrying military personnel to replace those stationed at Chilean bases. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0004 GMT 16 Jan 80 PY]

MIR MEMBER PRISON SENTENCE--After a 2-month judicial process, appeals court judge (Osvaldo Fajardo) sentenced extremist (Ulises Gomez Navarro) to 1,200 days in prison. The extremist confessed that he is an active member of the movement of the revolutionary left, MIR, that he perpetrated several bombing attacks and that he promoted the overthrow of the Chilean Government. Moreover, he confessed he is the editor of the REBEL, the official newspaper of the outlawed subversive movement. Because of this the judge sentenced him to 180 days (as heard) in prison for violating the public order law. (Gomez Navarro) played a bomb outside the residence of (Jaime Delvalle), Catholic University deputy dean. In his testimony, which is included in the statement issued by the appeals court judge, the extremist stated that the MIR is following a war strategy to overthrow the government. He explained that this is a revolution to overthrow the bourgeois class and establish a government of the people. The sentence is equivalent to 3 years, 3 months and 18 days in prison. (Text) [PY181211 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jan 80 PY]

NEW REGIMENTAL COMMANDER--Colonel Rene Gonzalez will assume his duties tomorrow as commander of the Rancagua regiment located in Arica. During a ceremony to be held tomorrow morning at 1130, Colonel Gonzalez will receive the command from Col Hugo Salas, who has recently been appointed director of the Bernardo O'Higgins Military School. [PY121625 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 10 Jan 80 PY]

BIGGEST PURCHASERS OF EXPORTS--The FRG, the United States, Japan, Brazil, Argentina, the UK and Italy are the most important buyers of Chilean products. Between January and November 1979 these nations purchased 68 percent of Chile's exports. The total value of Chilean exports between January and November 1979 was \$3.4 billion. The FRG bought from Chile products worth a total of \$546.4 million; the United States \$389 million; Japan \$387 million; Brazil \$342 million; Argentina \$240 million, and the UK \$227 million. The main exporter of articles to Chile was the United States, which sold products worth a total of \$885 million. [PY121625 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 9 Jan 80 PY]

FISH EXPORTS--The secretary of fishing announced that Chilean fishing exports this year surpassed the \$200 million mark and that fishing has had the greatest growth of any sector of the Chilean economy, with an average of 30 percent a year. [PY121625 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 10 Jan 80 PY]

INTERIOR MINISTER ON LEAVE--Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez will be on vacation from 14 January to 31 January. Colonel Enrique Montero, Interior Ministry undersecretary, will be acting interior minister while Sergio Fernandez is on leave. [PY121555 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Jan 80 PY]

CS01/ 39110

COLOMBIA

PRESIDENT TURBAY DISCUSSES NATIONAL PROBLEMS

PA131352 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Speech by President Julio Cesar Turbay during signing of public works contracts in Chia municipality--live]

[Excerpts] In Colombia today, a few agitators do exist and there are a few bad men and women who want to disrupt peace. But the large majority is like the peaceful people from the Bogota Plain who justify every effort made to insure their right to an easy life.

We have pledged ourselves to the difficult task of achieving peace during this crunch and under unfavorable international circumstances. With the support of the Colombian people, their clear understanding and also, of course, the cooperation of the armed forces personnel, we have been able to do this. We have avoided a widening of violence, the rise in the number of kidnappings and killings, the proliferation of peoples prisons. Today there is no danger of the violent elements taking over the reins of power. They will stay in prison and we will stay in the government. We will have to strengthen peace without being afraid to let the critics of the government criticize without harsh response. I want to contribute to the initiatives which have been made possible in a climate of peace. I wish peace and safety to Colombians. They direct their energies, enhance progress and make this nation ever more agreeable, fairer, more pleasant to live in. They will make it into what it should be: a model for the American peoples.

I am not so concerned about coping with an opposition that, to the good of the nation and the government, has not been strong enough. It exists and it should exist because that is typical of a democracy. There are several parties active here and there are opposing views; but the opposition has been incapable of staving off the major reforms we have promised--in the institutions, justice, congress, (word indistinct), higher education, (words indistinct). There is not a single public activity in which the government has not shown reformist intentions; not for the sake of appearing as a government of change per se, but because each reform is based on a study, a need and responds to a national demand.

My administration, so unfairly opposed by many, will have to be remembered for updating the institutions, giving the nation wide mechanisms of democratic involvement, improving justice, improving the work of Congress, responding to the serious concerns voiced by the Colombian people every day. I think we are on the right course. There is talk of divisionism, but not in the work of the government. The parties are divided for internal reasons.

There are large factions of the Conservative Party cooperating loyally with the government. I am grateful for that. But precisely because they are cooperating with the government, they are not disputing anything with the government. Here, there are some peoples who aspire to represent those who do not cooperate with me. But this is not done on behalf of the opposition which some eventual candidate will wage against my administration.

There is also divisionism—I am not saying it is widespread but it exists—in the Liberal Party. I can see that there is an enormous Liberal group that wants the party to stay in power while other Liberals do not want it to stay in power so the party can pay for not [words indistinct]. However, I think all these circumstances cannot change the democratic course of the nation. I think Colombia is on the right track; but of course it is facing the natural difficulties that every nation has to face.

May this be a year in which we can make headway in the war on speculation. A year in which everyone will contribute to making a firmer, more dynamic, more determined effort to serve the nation. For instance, we are faced with the problem of the unjustified rise in the price of many goods. There are other goods that, of course, have to bear the brunt of the rise in the cost of living and one can understand their increase. But other rises that are not based on economic circumstances but on sheer speculation should be severely punished. Instead of criticizing my administration, people should help the administration's war on speculators by reporting them. [Words indistinct] that the democratic labor unions should threaten a national strike or civil war. I urge them to cooperate in reporting speculators so as to punish them severely.

Of course, we have to lower the prices of many basic goods; but we must also, primarily, lower the volume of the public dispute. A person has to turn to the government, especially a government that is respectful of all its nationals, with at least the same respect that it shows to them. I make no threats. [Words indistinct] This is a government of dialog, cordiality, progress. Let all those who think they have better ideas than our own do us the favor of discussing them with us and not be so selfish as to keep them to themselves, knowing that they had the solution but did not discuss it so my administration would fail.

The councilmen's and deputies' elections will soon be held. The government does not want any special political force to win and it will respect the absolute will of Colombians expressed at the polls in an entirely honest election in which everyone can vie to win a majority vote. But I urge Colombians to exercise the right to vote, to register, not to refuse to become involved in solving major national problems.

CSO: 3010

COLOMBIA

POSSIBLE MINISTERIAL CHANGES DISCUSSED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 12 Nov 79 p 7-C

[Article: "Expectation over Possible Ministry Changes"]

[Text] There is expectation in political circles over changes in the ministerial cabinet, but it is still uncertain when they will take place; some believe that they will occur in December, and others think that they could happen sooner.

Minister of Government German Zea gave some indications about the imminence of the changes in question when he pointed out that "it is possible it would be convenient to have new faces, but mostly in order to allay the apprehension of the people," Zea noted.

The statements of the high official (head of the cabinet) stirred up again the topic of the ministerial rearrangement, especially when one takes into account that President Turbay Ayala has held meetings with the heads or the executives of the Liberal and the Conservative parties in the past few weeks.

Minister German Zea stated that, naturally, the crisis or the changes will be determined by the President of the Republic himself. "If it were up to me, I would accept the change immediately," Zea pointed out.

Several ministers were in agreement with the opinion of Dr Zea, and they said that President Turbay Ayala has the last word, that is to say, that the changes will take place when he deems them convenient.

Such has been speculated in quarters other than this daily as to the ministers that will be dismissed, and among those consistently mentioned are German Zea of the government, Hugo Escobar of justice, German Bula of agriculture, and Jose Manuel Arias of communications.

Doctors Zea, Escobar and Bula have been mentioned in those quarters as ambassadorial candidates, but this has not been confirmed. Dr Zea told EL TIEMPO that he has not thought about going abroad again as a diplomat, and that he considered it very improbably--Dr Zea practically rejected the possibility of his return to diplomacy.

In a different vein, Minister Zea said that within the next few days he plans to visit former President Dario Echandia, his friend of many years of whom he is especially fond.

Meanwhile, the conservatives, particularly the group led by Senator Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, are following the ministerial crisis very closely. EL SIGLO emphasized very amply yesterday the statements of German Zea under the front page headline "Minister Zea Hernandez proposes change in the cabinet." As is known, Senator Gomez publicly referred to a ministerial crisis 10 days ago, and frankly said that his group "feels bad" in the government alongside the Ospina-Pastrana movement. Senator Felio Andrade said yesterday that the statements of Zea coincide with the proposals of his group in favor of ministerial changes.

From what can be inferred, the Alvaro movement wants at any price the head of Education Minister Rodrigo Llereda, whom it accuses of political proselytizing; and the Ospina-Pastrana movement has asked for some time for the dismissal of Justice Minister Hugo Escobar Sierra, against whom it has launched strong attacks. However, the outcome of this double demand for heads on the part of the conservatives cannot be determined.

8414

CSO: 3010

COLOMBIA

STATE ENTITIES OWE 110 BILLION PESOS

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 29 Nov 79 pp 1, 2

[Article: "State Entities Owe 110 Billion Pesos"]

[Text] The public establishments, the state commercial and industrial enterprises, and those of mixed capital have domestic and foreign debts amounting to 110 billion pesos, a figure which is equivalent to 70 percent of the means of payment.

Of the total balance in favor of creditors, 62 billion pesos pertain to foreign obligations, according to a report of the National General Accounting Office showing the operational results of all the entities comprised in the foregoing designations.

At the end of the first semester of the current year, the three sectors registered a budgetary surplus of 8 billion pesos. A similar situation existed in the coffers of the public establishments, while the commercial enterprises showed a deficit of 13 billion pesos.

Considered individually, the greatest deficits occurred in the following public establishments: the Colombian Electrical Power Institute (ICEL), 1.024 billion pesos; the National Aeronautical Fund (FAN), 279 million pesos; the National Local Roads Fund, 229 million pesos; and the HIMAT, 162 million pesos.

The largest favorable balances occurred at the Colombian Family Welfare Institute, 2.29 billion pesos; the National Highway Fund (FVN), 1.693 billion pesos; Military Forces Retirement Fund, 341 million pesos; Social Security Institute, 197 million pesos; and the National Apprenticeship Service (SENA), 184 million pesos.

The state commercial and industrial enterprises that garnered the largest amounts of revenues during the first 6 months of the year were the ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise], 26.77 billion pesos; the Export Promotion Fund (PROEXPO), 16.886 billion pesos; and the Agricultural and Livestock Marketing Institute (IDEMA), 6.307 billion pesos. Those same enterprises made the largest expenditures: 25.49, 16.616 and 4.406 billion pesos, respectively.

The negative balance in the coffers of the commercial enterprises was the result of the unfavorable circumstances of the IDEMA, 7.416 billion pesos; the ECOPETROL, 7.343 billion pesos; and the National Railroads, 1.862 billion pesos.

The Debts

According to the general accounting office report, the public establishments of national status showed on 30 June balances in favor of creditors totaling 76.3 billion pesos, of which 35.3 billion pesos were foreign obligations.

The debt incurred with national moneylenders broke down into 20.725 billion pesos in principal and 4.26 billion pesos in interest, premiums and other charges. The largest domestic indebtedness was shown by the INSCREDIAL [Territorial Credit Institute], 8.727 billion pesos, the ICEL, 3.204 billion pesos; the INCORA [Colombian Agrarian Reform Institute], 1.257 billion pesos; and the CORILCA [Electric Corporation of the Atlantic Coast], 1.817 billion pesos.

The principal of the obligations incurred with international entities came up to 38.982 billion pesos, while the interest, commissions and other charges amounted to 7.017 billion pesos. The largest balances in this type of obligations belong to the Cauca Autonomous Regional Corporation, 3.351 billion pesos; the ICEL, 3.949 billion pesos; the FAN, 15.917 billion pesos; and the PVN, 3.256 billion pesos.

The industrial and commercial enterprises turned out balances in favor of creditors of 41.761 billion pesos, of which 24.892 billion pesos were domestic obligations and 16.869 billion pesos were foreign obligations.

It should be noted that the debt balances on 30 June 1979 were 14.052 billion pesos for the IDA, 11.702 billion pesos for the ECOPETROL, 11.582 billion pesos for the IDEMA, and 3.47 billion pesos for the National Railroads.

The fixed capital entities showed debt balances amounting to 622 billion pesos. The largest obligations were incurred by the Agricultural and Livestock Development and Export Financing Corporation (COFIAGRO) for a total of 461 billion pesos.

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COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

LEADER WARNS OF CIVIL WAR--Monsignor Mario Rebollo Bravo, president of the Colombian Episcopal conference, has said that the gap between the rich and poor resulting from the increase in the cost of living has brought about a difficult situation in Colombia which may lead to civil war. Monsignor Rebollo noted that the country is undergoing an agonizing era of social and economic demoralization in which the main victims are the underprivileged. The prelate stressed that Colombia has fallen into an abyss in which drug addiction, abortion, crime and indifference proliferate. Appealing to the people's conscience, he called for solidarity among the people to keep Colombia from falling into an abyss which will bring unfavorable repercussions to its inhabitants. Coinciding with the statements of the Episcopal conference, the Confederation of Workers of Colombia has called a nationwide strike to protest the high cost of living. [Text] [PA142218 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Jan 80 PA]

PEACE BID TO GUERRILLAS--Bogota, 13 Jan (AFP)--The Colombian Government today reiterated through the justice minister its appeal to the guerrillas to surrender as the only way to lift the state of siege in Colombia. In statements to Radio Cadena Nacional, the minister said that the guerrillas are to blame for the continuation of the state of emergency, which has been in effect for many years. Asked if the guerrillas would be given any guarantees if they surrender, he said that such a guarantee would be given and that--once it is strengthened--various legal remedies divisibly at a given moment could be explored. It was recalled that a succession of Colombian Governments have proposed to the guerrillas to lay down their arms but that the proposals have been categorically rejected by their leaders. [Text] [PA150148 Paris AFP in Spanish 2159 GMT 13 Jan 80 PA]

TERRORISTS BOMB POLITICAL CENTERS--Police authorities have launched a search operation against the urban terrorists that last night threw two bombs at two political centers in Cali. The results of the search have not yet been reported. The police have stated that, apparently, the attackers of the Liberal Party and Conservative Party headquarters in this city are members of the Pedro Leon Arboleda Cell of the illegal Popular Liberation Army. [Text] [PA121535 Bogota CADENA RADIAL SUPER in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA]

USSR TO BUY MEAT--Colombia will export between 10,000 and 30,000 tons of meat to the Soviet Union, announced Agriculture Minister German Bula Hoyos, who asserted that "the country would not have to depend on other markets" once the deal is concluded. The official made the announcement after receiving a message from Guillermo Plazas Alcid, the Colombian ambassador to the Soviet Union, in which he reports that Russia has made concrete proposals to purchase meat from Colombia. Bula Hoyos stated: "We are now meeting with the producers, especially with the Ingral Packing Plant, to find out if the prices, the quantities and the freezing methods will enable us to supply that market promptly." He said: "The meat market of the Soviet Union is practically limitless inasmuch as that country imports up to 450,000 tons of that product annually. Colombia would have an excellent opportunity within that prospect, and I believe it would be possible for us to initially offer between 10,000 and 30,000 tons of processed meat." [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 30 Nov 79 p 8-A] 8414

CS0: 3010

WOMEN'S RIGHTS DISCUSSED AT FMC MEETING

FL141239 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] has conducted an unprecedented effort for the equality of women's rights, Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat and first party secretary in Havana City Province, has stated in a speech at a Havana City's FMC meeting to evaluate, elect and/or reelect officers held at the Gerardo Abreu Fontan social club. PCC Secretariat members Antonio Perez Herrero and Jorge Risquet and Vilma Espin de Castro, member of the PCC Central Committee and FMC president, also chaired the meeting.

During the meeting the participants observed 1-minute of silence in tribute to the memory of the unforgettable guerrilla of the city and the countryside, Celia Sanchez. Vilma Salinas, secretary general of Havana City's FMC, who was reelected to the post, read the main report on the fundamental tasks carried out by the organization in recent years, pointing out gains and deficiencies which will be used to improve future work.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, the members of the PCC Politburo and Vilma Espin, Jorge Risquet and Julio Camacho were nominated and approved as honorary delegates to the third FMC congress. Likewise, it was announced that more than 450 delegates from Havana City Province will attend the congress.

In a brief speech Vilma Espin congratulated the comrades for the preparation and proceedings of the meeting and noted that an effort must be made to attain efficiency in the organization from the rank and file level to the highest leadership, because all members must work at all levels. In his closing remarks Camacho Aguilera stated that the meeting is being held within the framework of the drive against all manifestations of labor undiscipline and negligence. He referred to the role that must be played by FMC members in the formation of our youth's behavior.

CSO: 3010

CUBA

CAMACHO AGUILERA CLOSES CHEMICAL, ENERGY MEETING

FL150220 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Encouraged by the productive accomplishments of over 1 billion [figure as heard] pesos this past year the chemical and energy workers today commemorated their [national] day with a ceremony held at the Hungarian-Cuban friendship glass complex. Speaking on behalf of the national vanguards of that trade union was (Roberto Gonzalez Castellanos), national work. pro. The ceremony was presided over by Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat and first secretary in Havana City Province, who made the closing remarks, Central Committee members Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers (CTC), and Joel Domenech, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of basic industry, and Noel Zubiaur, secretary general of the chemical and energy trade union, also presided.

[Begin Camacho Aguilera recording] We know that the successes achieved and which we celebrate today, and the work carried out in the various sectors grouped in this trade union are not without deficiencies and weaknesses--pointed out by our commander in chief, and by Army Gen Raul Castro--and lack of discipline, shoddiness, negligence, and so forth. But we also know that the group of the working class gathered in the chemical and energy trade union are preparing to greet the second congress of our glorious Communist Party with a tenacious and unswerving struggle to comply with the directions issued by Fidel and Raul, eliminating from the collectives the deficiencies affecting the development of daily work by being more demanding and more efficient. [applause]

Long live the chemical and energy workers! [shouts of viva from the audience and applause]

Long live the working class! [shouts of viva and applause]

Long live the PCC! [shouts of viva and applause]

Long live Fidel! [shouts of viva and applause]

Fatherland or death! [shouts of We shall win! and applause] [End recording]

SUGAR HARVEST PROBLEMS DISCUSSED AT MEETING IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA

FL171920 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The status and development of the current sugar harvest in Santiago de Cuba were analyzed yesterday at a meeting chaired by PCC Central Committee Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and attended by the first secretaries of the nine municipal party committees in the province.

It became obvious during the analysis that it is necessary to improve and stabilize grinding operations not only to complete the daily sugar production schedule of each sugar mill but also and very especially to make up for delays in sugar production--a situation which, if not improved, may imperile the province's fulfillment [of production plans] in the harvest that has to be the most efficient of the 5-year period [1976-80].

At the sugar harvest analysis meeting held in Santiago de Cuba yesterday, Machado Ventura called for doubling efforts throughout the province, particularly at the Los Reinaldos and Julio Antonio Mella sugar mills whose instability [in grinding rate] despite having the largest capacities make development of the sugar harvest in Santiago de Cuba difficult.

The member of the Politburo emphasized the duties that party members must perform during the harvest--permanent firmness, fight against deficiencies and no tolerance of organizational mismanagement. He also indicated that at this time the harvest requires high discipline, rigorous control and inspection as well as the adoption of effective and opportune measures that resolve the critical situations that may arise.

Jose Ramon Machado Ventura was accompanied on his visit to Santiago de Cuba by Comrade Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera, member of the party Central Committee and party first secretary in the province. They toured the construction sites of a textile mill, oil and lubricants plant, a plant for repair of Soviet trucks and the first 18-story building under construction on San Miguel St and Victoriano Garzon Ave.

During this visit to these projects the members of the Central Committee Politburo talked with workers and party members to whom he stressed the need to struggle at each of their work activities to fulfill what Fidel and Raul have proposed.

BRIEFS

SUGAR HARVEST PROBLEMS--At a Holguin ceremony marking the start of a drive aimed at grinding 90 percent of the sugar mills' capacities 90 consecutive times with 85 percent purity, Miguel Cano Blanco, first party secretary in the province, termed the results of the current harvest unsatisfactory. The PCC Central Committee member severely criticized the 37,000 metric tons deficit in the sugar production plan, a situation which could have a negative impact in Holguin's contribution to the national program. The party leader also urged the workers to recover from the setbacks reported in almost all statistics. [Text] [FL151251 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jan 80 FL]

SUGARCANE SHORTAGES--The worker movement in Havana only achieved 63 percent of its plan to supply sugarcane to the sugar industries in the territory in the first 10 days of this month. The poor work was announced at the 10-day review meeting on this working force which was held at the headquarters of the sugarcane provincial battalion of the Central organization of Cuban Workers [CTC]. The planned delivery for the time period was 4.89 million arrobas, but due to problems of lack of discipline the volunteer canecutters of Havana fell short by over 1.79 million arrobas. [Excerpt] [FL160049 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL]

SUGAR HARVEST NEWS--Humberto Miguel Fernandez, first party secretary in Cienfuegos Province, has called for an increase in productivity of canecutters and harvesters and criticized the poor work of the sugarcane enterprise supplying the Pepito Tey sugar mill. Referring to the same topic, a Havana Province report states that the labor movement had attained 63 percent of the plan for the supply of sugarcane to the mills during the first 10 days of January. A report for the same period from Camaguey Province points out that the principal cause for the drop in grinding is the lack of raw materials in 10 of the sugar mills in the province. Miguel Fernandez pointed out in the Cienfuegos meeting that it is necessary to step up the supply of sugarcane to the industries to make full use of mill producing capacities, make up time lost, produce more sugar and avoid the costly prolongation of the harvest. [Text] [FL161337 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL]

SUGAR HARVEST MEETING--At the time of this newscast the Cienfuegos provincial plenary meeting of the sugar industry trade union was continuing at the Tricontinental bulk sugar terminal of Cienfuegos. Jorge Garcia, union secretary general spoke of the need to maintain petroleum consumption at zero as has been done up to now, and he criticized the poor use of the transportation equipment and the deficient use of the cagecars which waste fuel. The trade union bureau secretaries at various sugar mill enterprises discussed the difficulties being faced due to the lack of sugarcane and the negative results at the sugar mills because of grinding old sugarcane from rail cars due to the fact that some units give priority to cane which has been loaded onto tip-up trucks. The militant meeting pointed out the serious deficiencies of the Antonio Sanchez sugar mill management as regards carrying out safety measures in areas of great danger. The Cienfuegos sugar industry workers expressed their determination to complete an efficient sugarcane harvest as they had pledged and to do so with revolutionary firmness in all aspects in which the trade union movement can and should contribute to a good sugarcane harvest and in developing the country. [Text] [FL170056 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

CANE-CUTTING BRIGADE--Div Gen Efigenio Garcia, member of the PCC Central Committee, vice minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--and chief of the Youth Labor Army--EJT--in the country, has delivered the red flag with the picture of Jesus Menendez to the Camilo Cienfuegos [cane-cutting] brigade of Ciego de Avila for being the first collective in that place in arriving at 1 million arrobas of sugarcane cut. The contingent, comprised of 38 cane-cutting soldiers, reached this figure 36 days ahead of schedule. It was an achievement due to the efforts carried since the beginning of the sugarcane harvest by these machete soldiers. [Text] [FL189074 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan 80 FL]

SANCTI SPIRITUS COMPUTER CENTER--Fidel Vazquez, minister-president of the State Committee for Statistics, cut the ribbon inaugurating a modern computer center of that organization in Sancti Spiritus Province. The ceremony was attended by Alfredo Rondal Gonzalez, second secretary of the party provincial committee, Fernando Gonzalez, vice president of the State Committee for Statistics, and representatives of the people's government, among others. The cost of the equipment installed in the Sancti Spiritus computer center is one-half-million pesos. [Excerpt] [FL170056 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1916 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

PERSONNEL READ SENTENCES--The people's tribunal of Havana has sentenced Jose Manuel Alvarez Martinez to 10 years imprisonment for embezzlement. The trial established that the aforementioned citizen, who was personnel third and paymaster of the entity number 1401 of the architectural construction enterprise of this capital, added 37 non-existent workers to the payroll. In reviewing the documents they discovered the discrepancy with regard to the payroll amounting to 3,847 pesos. The Havana City Province

People's Tribunal sentenced citizen Jose Manuel Alvarez Gutierrez to repay the enterprise 521,75 pesos and to serve 10 years in jail. [Excerpt] [FL172926 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2020 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH MEETING--The second review meeting of agricultural and livestock research work opened this morning at the auditorium of the agricultural fair grounds in Rancho Boyeros (Havana). The meeting will last until tomorrow. It opened with the reading of the main report prepared by the science and technology directorate of the Agriculture Ministry. The research system of this sector is composed of 13 research units that serve as headquarters of a network of 30 stations, substations or laboratories throughout the country. Ninety-eight percent of the 1979 research plan was completed with work on 356 topics and more than 1,600 tasks. The meeting is being chaired by Miguel Rodriguez Mayea, Agriculture Ministry vice minister of development and technical services; and Eloy Sosa, an engineer and vice president of the Cuban Academy of Sciences. [FL171856 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

HAVANA WATERWORKS RETAIL SHOP--PCC Politburo member Pedro Miret has visited two units of the Havana Waterworks repair shops enterprise to learn firsthand about the solutions being sought in connection with leaks at private homes caused by faucets and bathroom fixtures in poor condition. Those leaks, Miret indicated, cause 70 percent of the wasted water, which amounts to 200 million cubic meters per year. The first shop visited, located at Animas Street between Escobar and Cervasio streets, repairs small water pumps and services more than 25,000 electric pumps in Havana City Province. The other shop, located at 84 and 518 streets, manufactures plumbing parts such as nipples, stopcock arms, stopcocks, float hooks and others. Last year that unit restored 6,400 faucets which were thought to be beyond repair. Miret said that with work such as is being done by those units, wasting of large quantities of water is avoided and the annoyance that such a waste causes in the people is eliminated. [Text] [FL171743 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

CIENFUEGOS AGRICULTURE--In a town of the tuber-growing farms of the municipality of Abreo, Jose Ramirez Cruz, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the National Association of Small Farmers (ANAP), was briefed on this year's plan for the production of 700,000 quintals of tubers and vegetables in the province of Cienfuegos. Ramirez Cruz visited the potato and plantain farms, the irrigation system in the [Morquita] tuber enterprise and the operation of its livestock and agricultural cooperative. The ANAP president was told that the peasants in the Abreo Municipality this year should plant more than 15 caballerias of land and cultivate nearly 87,000 quintals of tubers and vegetables. Aguada de Pasajeros will be the province's No 2 municipality in the production of tubers and vegetables with 40,000 quintals. [Text] [FL151149 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

AGRICULTURAL EFFORTS--In accordance with an appeal of the Havana City Party executive bureau, the Central Organization of Cuban Workers and the

provincial unions are preparing to mobilize nearly 2,000 workers to work in the potato and vegetable crops and to plant and weed canefields for a period of 3 months. Under the slogan "Volunteer work is the cornerstone of our communist education," the capital's labor contingent will join agricultural tasks on 31 January in various municipalities of Havana Province. In order to reach the goal of 2,000 workers the unions and locals in Havana will have to appeal to the workers in an enthusiastic campaign, and they will respond with the spirit and selflessness of always. This year Havana Province's agricultural officials anticipate a good vegetable crop and a potato harvest with a yield of 6,000 quintals per caballeria for the capital's consumption. [Text] [FL161429 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1335 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL]

NICARAGUAN PEASANTS DELEGATION--A delegation of young Nicaraguan peasants who currently are studying at the national school of the National Association of Small Farmers (ANAP) have visited agricultural-livestock production cooperatives in Pinar del Rio. Laureano Gonzalez, president of the (Celos Maragote) cooperatives, welcomed the visitors and explained to them the structure, organization and operation of the cooperatives. He also explained the results obtained in harvests when superior methods of production are used. Francisco Blanco, ANAP president in Pinar del Rio, conveyed greetings to the Nicaraguan peasants and people. The 35 young peasants are studying at the Niceto Perez national ANAP school. [FL091447 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1435 GMT 9 Jan 80 FL]

IRAQI ENVOY--Today Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State, received (Achel Hafi Isamil, who presented his credentials accrediting him as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Iraq. Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign relations, also participated in the meeting. The Iraqi ambassador was accompanied by (Ibrahim Osman), first secretary, Lt Col (Sadun Hasan), military attache, and (Choki Chonsen Dan), interpreter. Attending for the protocol directorate were Roberto Melendez Diaz, director, and Alberto Mendez Cordova, chief of the ceremonial activities department. Once the ceremony concluded the ambassador and his delegation went to the Plaza of the Revolution and laid a floral wreath at the national hero Jose Marti monument. [Text] [FL142256 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 14 Jan 80 FL]

ECUADOREAN AMBASSADOR'S ACTIVITIES--Haydee Santamaria, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Casa de las Americas, has received Jorge Perez Concha, an outstanding historian who was recently appointed ambassador of the Republic of Ecuador to Cuba. It is a great pleasure for us to visit the Casa de las Americas, an organization which has conducted such a profound and important work in our continent, Perez Concha stated during the fraternal meeting in which (Franklin Bahamonde), cultural adviser of the Ecuadorean Embassy, and painter Mariano Rodriguez, first vice president of the Casa de las Americas, also participated. The ambassador donated a collection of his historic works and books by other

Ecuadorean writers as well as a valuable Quechua-Spanish and Spanish-Quechua dictionary. Haydee Santamaria thanked the ambassador for the donation and reiterated that the Casa de las Americas is the home of Ecuadorean artists and writers as well as expressed the institution's profound interest in the cultural expressions of the Ecuadorean people. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 10 Jan 80 FL]

RELATIONS WITH ECUADOR--Guillermo Garcia Frias, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of transportation, has received Mr Jorge Perez Concha, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Ecuador to Cuba. At the meeting, which took place in an atmosphere of open and cordial friendship, Garcia Frias and Ambassador Perez Concha discussed matters of mutual interest and reaffirmed the traditional ties that bind the peoples of Ecuador and Cuba. [Text] [FL162036 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2007 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL]

SOVIET ASTRONOMY OFFICIAL--Dr Alla Masevich, chairman of the astronomy council of the USSR Academy of Sciences, is visiting Santiago de Cuba to examine the work of the (?laser) radar satellite tracking station. Prof Masevich, who is also deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, is in Cuba at the invitation of the directorate of the institute of geophysics and astronomy and the territorial delegation of the Cuban Academy of Sciences. The visitor told reporters that the Santiago de Cuba tracking station is the main one for the southern hemisphere and Latin America in research work being conducted by Soviet scientists in those areas. [Text] [FL161227 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL]

SOVIET PRICES CHAIRMAN--Lionel Soto, member of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat, met with Nikolay T. Glushkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee on Prices today in Havana. The meeting, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding characterizing relations between the two countries, was also attended by Vitaliy Vorotnikov, USSR ambassador to Cuba. Others present included Yevteniy [Viatkin], senior economist of the USSR State Committee on Prices, Santiago Riera, minister-president of the Cuban State Committee for Prices, and Santiago Garcia, deputy chief of the Central Committee Department of Economy. Glushkov is visiting our country for the first time at the invitation of the Cuban State Committee for Prices. During his stay he has carried out many activities, among them a tour of the mining zone in Holguin Province in the far eastern part of the country. [Text] [FL172313 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL] This afternoon Nikolay Glushkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee on Prices, visited the Lenin vocational school accompanied by Santiago Riera, president of the Cuban State Committee for Prices. During the visit the high level Soviet leader was briefed on the objectives of vocational education at the Lenin school by (Lazaro Cardenas), deputy director of the school, on behalf of the administration. Afterwards Minister Glushkov visited the areas of industry, laboratories, the natural history museum and the museum of Cuban history and the revolution. Student guides of the school briefed the Soviet minister and his

delegation on how activities are carried out at the vocational school and answered his questions. During his stay in our country the chairman of the USSR State Committee on Prices has held various meetings with Cuban officials and tomorrow he will sign a cooperation protocol. [Text] [FL180151 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan 80 FL]

IRAQI OFFICIAL--This afternoon Jose Lopez Moreno, vice president of the Council of Ministers, received Muhammad Fadil, minister of public works and housing of the Republic of Iraq, who is on an official visit to our country. Levi Farah, government minister in charge of construction abroad, attended the meeting along with (Achel Hafi Isamil), Iraqi ambassador to Cuba. The meeting which took place in the fraternal atmosphere characterizing relations between the Cuban and Iraqi governments and peoples, dealt with topics of interest to the two sides. [Text] [FL172259 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH VIETNAM--A cultural protocol between Cuba and Vietnam was signed at noon (1700 GMT) today by Pelegrin Torras, vice foreign minister, and Nguyen Huu Ngo, ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Cuba. Torras stated that this document has a great importance for the Cubans because of all that which unites us to the people and government whose achievements we enjoy and whose difficulties we share. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam ambassador also expressed his satisfaction with the signing of the protocol which will contribute to understanding each other better and to strengthening the deep roots linking our two nations in all areas. The ceremony was attended by Jose Fernandez de Cossio, vice foreign minister, Rolando Lopez del Alma, Lisandro Otero, and Olga Miranda--all directors in the Foreign Ministry--and Orestes Quintana, section chief of the Central Committee General Department of Foreign Relations. Others present included poet Adolfo Marti for the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists (UNEAC), Hector Carbonell, for the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation (INDER), Miguel A. Arteaga, for the Union of Cuban Journalists (UPEC), and other Cuban and Vietnamese officials. [Text] [FL172334 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM--The working sessions of the international symposium that will discuss the subject "Jose Marti and Revolutionary Democratic Thinking" opened today at the Casa de las Americas. Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, made the opening speech. The symposium is sponsored by the Jose Marti studies center. Prominent figures who study the ideas of our national hero are participating in the symposium. They include (Valentina Sitnika) of the Soviet Union, (Carlos Blanco) of Spain, (Phillys Foster) of the United States, (Alexander Cabral) of Portugal and (Jean Lamore) of France. Roberto Fernandez Retamar, director of the Jose Marti studies center, is chairing the symposium. [Text] [FL171839 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL]

SOVIET FORESTRY CHAIRMAN--A Soviet delegation headed by G. I. Vorob'yev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Forestry, has toured the forestry project at Gran Piedra [Sierra Maestra, Guantanamo Province] which covers an area of 12,097 hectares. The delegation was able to appreciate the pine plantings predominating in the area and to learn about the efforts under way in reforestation on the slopes and areas around Gran Piedra. After touring the borders of all areas in the Sierra Maestra of the large national park of the same name, Vorob'yev expressed his satisfaction for the work being done in this part of the country and throughout Cuba to increase forest land. [Text] [FL180042 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jan 80 FL]

BENIN ANNIVERSARY--(Pierre Edon), charge d'affaires of Benin to Cuba, has stated at a press conference that the attack perpetrated on Sunday 16 January 1977 by imperialism, the international reactionary forces and their local lackeys against the Republic of Benin reaffirmed the determination of that African nation to continue defending the achievements of their revolution and the socialist line they have adopted. On the occasion of the third anniversary of the people's victory in Benin the diplomat, (Pierre Edon), recounted the long anticolonialist struggle of his country which definitively broke the chains of oppression on 26 October 1972, and the achievements of the People's Republic Government in consolidating national independence and the battle against underdevelopment and other effects of colonialism. [Text] [FL180053 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jan 80 FL]

ARTEMISA CEMENT PRODUCTION--Party Secretariat member Jorge Risquet Valdes has chaired a ceremony held in Artemisa marking the completion of the 1979 technical and economic plan by the Martires de Artemisa cement plant. The plant produced 573,000 metric tons, thereby exceeding its production plan by 3,000 tons though it was closed for 10 days in September. [Excerpt] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jan 80 FL]

PROPAGANDA SEMINARS--The role of propaganda and ideological work in the struggle for firmness and efficiency have been the principal topics covered in seminars held in Pinar del Rio and Guantanamo by the departments of revolutionary orientation in those provinces. The work done in 1979 and plans for the new year in the field of agitation and propaganda were evaluated at the seminars. A paper outlining commemorative activities was another of the matters examined at the seminar in Pinar del Rio where the closing remarks were made by Oscar Domenech, deputy chief of the party Central Committee's department of revolutionary orientation. It is necessary to do ideological work in accordance with the theses approved at the first party congress, Domenech pointed out. He went on to stress that propaganda must be increased with the resources of each municipality. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Jan 80 FL]

CDR SEMINAR--The national seminar on volunteer work, public health, savings and social work of the Committees for Defense of the Revolution--CDR--has been closed by CDR Deputy National Coordinator Maria Teresa Malmierca. She reiterated that revolutionary vigilance requires not only working the night watch but also safeguarding the people's interests at all times. She emphasized the assistance that the CDR can give to eliminate illegal electrical line hook-ups and called for a strong fight against them in response to statements made at the last National Assembly session. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jan 80 FL]

CSO: 3010

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

LAJARA ACCUSES CURRENT REGIME OF VIOLATING CONSTITUTION

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 3 Dec 79 p 11-A

[Text] The head of the People's Democratic Party [PDP] said yesterday that the president of the republic has violated several articles of the Constitution in the 15 months the present government has been in power.

Former Rear Adm Luis Homero Lajara Burgos indicated that President Antonio Guzman "has taken on the task of passing over the national congress, thus violating Article 4, Part 2 of the constitution.

The opposition leader pointed out that the worse part of it is that the national congress "is accepting" these violations.

Specifically, the PDP chairman cited the increase in the price of gasoline dictated by the executive power, pointing out that an action of this nature could be taken only by the legislative branch.

He added that prior to taking a measure of this nature, the president should have submitted to Congress a bill for its approval or rejection.

Lajara Burgos said that in that case Article 37 of the constitution was violated.

The head of the PDP, who talked on the program Aeromundo, aired yesterday through colorvision by reporter Guillermo Gomez, also mentioned as another case allegedly violating the constitution the subsidy of 100 and 50 pesos granted to chauffeurs by the government.

He added that the president could not grant such subsidies through administrative channels, but should have done it through the senate or the house.

Lajara Burgos also cited as violations of the constitution the increases in the salaries of the president of the republic and the members of the cabinet dictated by the executive branch.

Among other supposed violations being committed by the current government, Lajara Burgos mentioned the case of reporter Adriano Gomez who, he said, is being unfairly persecuted by the authorities.

He added that this act carries with it also a violation of human rights.

In addition, the PDP president referred to an accusation by PRD leader Jose Ovalle about an alleged use of 32 million pesos by the president to grant grade to grade contracts to persons within the PRD who agreed that the government should control that political organization.

Lajara Burgos stated that all of this constitutes a flagrant violation of legal precepts, warning that he has already asked the Central Election Board to open an investigation into the matter.

Referring to the struggle of tendencies now existing within the PRD, the former rear admiral pointed out that the gravity of the case is that "it is the government which wants to crush the tendencies of Dr Salvador Jorge Blanco."

The opposition leader indicated that actions such as these do not contribute at all to the political cleaning-up of the country.

He said that in the economic order the situation has been much worse.

Lajara Burgos denounced the high cost of living, pointing out that in the past a housewife could go to the supermarket and buy 60 pesos' worth of merchandise and this would last her a month, but now this same purchase costs 170 and 180 pesos.

9341

CSO: 3010

PENA GOMEZ CONTENTS HIGH-LEVEL BRIBERY AT WORK TO GET VOTES

Sanot Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 1 Dec 79 p 1, 15

[Text] Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD], yesterday charged that there are PRD leaders from all tendencies offering bribes and also some promising appointments in exchange for a vote.

"This selling of votes must be stopped cold if we wish to preserve the morality of the party, Dr Pena Gomez demanded.

Nevertheless, he made it clear that "what comrade Ovalle (Jose) said, that millions were being spent, is not true."

The PRD leader did not reveal the names of the leaders of that party who are offering bribes and appointments in exchange for votes.

The secretary general of the PRD reported that Thursday night in San Francisco de Macoris he heard prominent PRD member from the northeast, of Dr Salvador Jorge Blanco's tendency, say in the presence of the heads of President Antonio Guzman's tendency that "I had to put a stop to corruption in the party because he had had to spend over 2,000 pesos to win a municipal convention, because there had been a leader and government official offering to buy votes at 25 pesos each, and so he felt forced to buy them at 30 pesos in order not to lose."

Pena Gomez declared, "Visits to delegates are made as late as midnight by these conscience-buying men who are besmirching the good name of the party."

The PRD leader reiterated that the secret vote is only a partial remedy for the political sickness of corruption.

At the same time, Pena Gomez repeated earlier charges that there had been manipulations and pressure by certain leaders which are restricting the delegates' choice.

The politician noted that President Guzman had denied that there are any such pressures.

"The president of the republic is a busy man who cannot know any of the details of the conventions and who is hearing only biased reports brought to him by party members and friends. Don Antonio has not witnessed any convention; we have," Pena Gomez stressed."

According to the politician, the Tenth National Convention, planned for the middle of this month, "will be the trial by fire for the internal democracy of the party."

The politician gave his opinions yesterday in a speech on "Tribuna Democratica," the PRD radio organ transmitted on Radio Commercial.

Pena Gomez gave a detailed report of previous conventions, which had turned out very haphazard, resulting, among other problems, in the expulsion and resignation of well-known former PRD leaders. He specifically cited the bases of Dr Washington de Pena and Professor Pablo Casimiro Castro.

Pena Gomez said that "we are not at another difficult juncture for the party. The tendencies that led the campaign which culminated in the Ninth National Convention are facing us again, this time in a battle for control of the party."

He declared that at this time, no tendency has the support of the whole party, but rather only of a part which may represent the majority of delegates' votes in the national convention.

Pena Gomez repeated his proposal to party rank and file that the next convention should approve "proportional representation" and the secret vote. President Guzman is opposed to this.

The PRD secretary general stated that it may be inferred from President Guzman's opinions that if his tendency and that of vice president Jacobo Majluta should win the Tenth Convention, the followers of Dr Jorge Blanco and the other groups opposed to the present majority tendencies would be left out.

Pena Gomez pointed out that that solution could be temporarily beneficial to Antonio Guzman, who would control the party this way, but it would not benefit the PRD.

The PRD leader warned that President Guzman, despite his present physical vigor, will not have a long period of leadership and the party has the obligation to continue preparing other politicians to go on with its work when constitutional terms and party promises call for a change.

Elsewhere in his speech, Pena Gomez announced that he will supervise the National District for a 2-year period, no matter who is secretary general of the district.

He stressed that his decision does not run counter to anyone, but that it is a precautionary measure against "groupism" and a guarantee that the party leader will be able to maneuver and to act.

In the last paragraphs of his talk, Pena Gomez issued a vehement call for party unity, and for an end to groupism and excessive ambition.

8587

CSO: 3010

PDR ADVISER URGES CONVENTION DELEGATES TO RESOLVE DISCORD

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 5 Dec 79 p 8-A

[Message by Dr Antonio Claudio Martinez to 10th PRD convention delegates, 2 December 1979]

[Text] Before the sad spectacle of an intrapartisan conflict, "which is good when it is controlled and regulated," among interested groups who are inciting our comrades, Antonio Buzman, Jacoba Majluta, Salvador Jorge Blanco and other militants, to go separate ways so that these groups can satisfy their political appetites without attaching any importance to the PRD [Dominican Revolutionary Party], the government or the nation, a friend cannot and should not remain silent. Over the long term the victor in this conflict might be "corruption, anarchy or authoritarianism," or another outside the party family who will remind the Dominican family at an opportune moment "that these PRD adherents are dishonest, incapable of fulfillment and immoral."

It appears to me that the principal cause of this discord lies in the program of the PRD government. It is the part which it offered the people in its "nonreelection" of the president. I do not believe that it was the "nonreelection" principle which won the PRD the elections. True, it was a significant factor for a people fed up with continuism and perpetuation of personalized political power. The "nonreelection" principle is considered by the people to be a sacred commitment of every PRD member. Ignorance of this principle by a PRD member elected to the government will not be lightly disregarded in 1982. The "nonreelection" principle offers advantages and disadvantages to the party, the government and the people. Among the advantages it offers to guarantee that we shall have democracy and not dictatorship; it offers to guarantee our nation's political and social progress through new ideas. Among the disadvantages it represents a loss of political values, of experience, interruption of programs and the like. The PRD leaders cannot politically aboutface 180 degrees and proclaim a "reelection," for such an act would discredit the party in the eyes of the people. The only PRD leader affected by the "nonreelection" principle is Antonio Guzman whose behavior at the Tenth Convention will be the decisive factor as to whether the government will or will not continue to receive PRD support.

One possible solution to avoid the disorganization of the PRD for the reason mentioned is definitely to let the elections be subject to prior alternative action by the Executive branch. I wonder how we can draw from private life a worthy individual such as Antonio Guzman, who with his authoritative knowledge was able to rid the armed forces from politics, tackle the reconstruction of the country after a hurricane ~~more~~ damaging than San Zenon and, in a period of rising prices, balance the national economy with the acquisition of nonrenewable funds without frightening foreign investment away. My solution does not contemplate drawing him from private life but, rather, to make him and all former elected presidents senators of the republic for life.

The knowledge and experience of a former president are among the nation's assets which should not be discarded. I would include every former elected president which would permit worthy intellectuals, such as former presidents, Prof Juan Bosch, Dr Joaquin Balaguer and in the not very distant future Antonio Guzman, to come to the service of the nation in a legislative forum in which the former presidents could influence the progress of the nation with their positive ideas. This solution would enable Guzman to take part in future elections, fulfill his sacred commitment to the people, help unify the party and knit the nation together politically. It is not true that eminent politicians, such as the former presidents, retire to cultivate their gardens and philosophize like Dr Pangloss in the book, "Candide."

The rule of life is that everything changes and is transformed with time. The PRD has changed from a party "without power" to a party "in power." However, it has not changed its anachronistic regulatory statutes, designed for a party persecuted and politically harassed for which it was not possible to keep basic records--namely, Registers of Affiliates for the suppression the country was experiencing. Thus, who are the "true PRD adherents," and which are the "militants," "sympathizers" and "opportunists"? When did they enter the party and what have they contributed? For what purpose did they contribute, and what did the party gain with this? The answers to these questions are filed in the memory of the comrades and not in an objective place. For these reasons the PRD, which is holding its Tenth Convention like the other Dominican parties, is not a traditional political party. Yet it is a popular almost juridical movement, distinguished for being headed by the most dynamic political leader in the world since the decade of the 1960's. As time goes on, Dr Pena Gomez is on the way to being awarded the Nobel prize for having pacified and democratized, at the risk of his life, one of the most fiery and difficult lands in the Western hemisphere during a period of 2 decades, and he did this with his exemplary words and acts. The delegates follow charismatic politicians with ideas; it is not true that they follow the ideas of politicians without charisma. The Tenth Convention will be more important with regard to how the party's formal organization will turn out than with regard to who will be elected. "The minorities must be respected."

These consistently and democratically pure thoughts of the top leader coincide with the principles aimed at assuring emerging democracy throughout the nation.

With the secret ballot and proportional representation we shall avoid the party divisiveness now occurring. With these two principles we shall strengthen the PRD's dynamism preventing the political stagnation which occurred with reformism. I for one support the claims and demands of Dr Pena Gomez admonishing the delegates to the Tenth Convention to put aside their individual tendencies, think first of the public interest of the nation, second, of the general interest of the party, third, of the demands of the comrades who assign them duties, fourth, of their own political ambitions and, finally, of their personal ambitions.

There are other causes for party division and the political division of the people in general. The use of "slates" for voting is a quick way to assure the election of the most incapable person, the most ignorant, the most opportunist, and the stagnation of a political group. Slates do not provide for the election of personal integrity but only of a "package" in which there is surely some good and much bad. In party as well as national elections, election by "slates" should be prohibited, unless the voter is given all the "slates" to choose freely the individuals one wishes from each "slate." The right to a political vote is a personal right, not transferable, to choose freely and secretly one candidate among several for a specific office. In my humble opinion, voting by "slates" is a matter of choosing just a list of names. There is no free opportunity to choose an individual (this happened in Sosua). For this reason, up to now the use of slates strengthens party groupism showing Dr Pena Gomez to be right when he demands proportional representation. Unfortunately, the organizational secretaries in the bases did not organize the party well, because they placed too great a limitation on party membership long before the elections and without any publicity (this happened in New York), and the right to vote for delegates to this convention was for groups with established interests. There are some who say, "The PRD for PRD members." I would say, "The PRD for all Dominican people, limiting the right to be elected to the oldest and most recognized strugglers, for the party belongs to the militants who struggle for the faithful accomplishment of the party principles and its political program." The organizational secretaries, who excluded new blood from their ranks which would otherwise have strengthened the party, ignorantly and intentionally strengthened continuism, groupism and stagnation of the party and the republic. I was the first, without fear, to support entry into the PRD and its party doctrines, as outlined by Dr Josefcio Pena Gomex, personages such as Dr Joaquin Balaguer, Prof Juan Bosch, Radhames Trujillo, Gen Imbert Barreras, Shah Reza Pahlevi himself and Ayatollah Khomeyni, if they so desired, for the doctrines elaborated by Dr Gomez up to now signify more than reconciliation and Dominican unity; they signify human reconciliation in a world where we ourselves our changing day after day, while our nonrenewable resources are being exhausted. Their conservation through a unified human policy is

necessary, initiated by just and reasonable political leaders. Thus, the Tenth Convention must be for the delegates a recognition of eternal democratic principles, a new reaffirmation of those principles, a reconciliation of "trends" with political and human reality, the foundation for a set of rules which will assure all comrades and future comrades that, in 1981, the PRD will give every militant, through primary elections at the base level, the right to choose freely not one but two presidential candidates for 1982 and 1986 choosing between Jacobo Majluta and Salvador Jorge Blanco. This will assure the nation, party and contenders political stability in support of emerging social democracy.

My good wishes for an institutionalized convention where all come out flying eagles.

Dr Antonio Claudio Martinez
Legal Adviser of the PRD-New York
PRD member without vote but with a voice
Sosua, R.D., 2 December 1979

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

GUZMAN LIFTS BAN AGAINST LOLITA LEBRON CONTINGENT

Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 18 Dec 79 p 21

[Article: "AG Lifts Ban on Puerto Rican Nationalists"]

[Text] President Antonio Guzman yesterday lifted the entry ban imposed on the Puerto Rican nationalists Lolita Lebron, Oscar Collazo, Rafael Cancel Miranda and Irving Flores.

The President's Office made this announcement in a press release which explains that "the ban against these Puerto Rican citizens was for political reasons, but because of these persons' participation in an assassination attempt against former President of the United States Harry Truman.

"Moreover" adds the President's Office, "we deny the report that the entry ban imposed against the Puerto Rican citizens in question was decided during the previous administration of President Dr Joaquin Balaguer.

"On the contrary," added the release, "the ban imposed on Lolita Lebron was created by memorandum 14252 on 14 August 1963, while the ban on Oscar Collazo, Rafael Cancel Miranda and Elvin Flores [as published] became effective on 4 April of the same year."

The press release is signed by Press and Information Director of the President's Office, Nelson William Mendez Batista.

On 14 December the four Puerto Rican nationalists were prevented from boarding a Dominican Aviation Company (CDA) plane in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in which they would fly to the Dominican Republic.

An airlines spokesman told the Associated Press on that date, "the nationalists were prevented from boarding the plane on instructions from the Dominican Republic's Department of Immigration."

He added that on the preceding day the Immigration Department had notified the four Puerto Rican "independentistas" by phone that it had a ban on their entering the country.

On learning of this case, the Immigration Director, Baron Suero Cedenro, attributed the ban to arrangements of President Balaguer's government, which President Guzman's Office denied.

The four political figures were freed in September by order of President Jimmy Carter after they had spent 30 years in prison for an assassination attempt against former President Harry Truman.

Recently they visited Cuba and Mexico as part of the political activities of the Puerto Rican Independence Party (PIP). PIP leaders said they requested the mediation of the general secretary of the Dominican Revolutionary (PRD), Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, to have the government lift the ban.

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CSO: 3010

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

EXPORTERS CITE REASONS FOR WOES, RECOVERY PLANS

David, Frederick Damage Figures

Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 1 Dec 79 p 38

[Text] The Dominican Exporters Association [ADOEXPO] stated that some of its affiliated enterprises suffered losses amounting to 4.7 million pesos due to the effects of hurricane David and tropical storm Frederick, which lashed the country at the beginning of September. These losses include 4,701,229.82 pesos in damages to physical installations and equipment and 36,753.85 pesos in damages to raw materials. According to ADOEXPO, the total value of 4,737,983.67 pesos covers losses of a "very small number of enterprises, none of which are identified. These enterprises, according to the association, were forced to reduce their operations to a minimum, but have made extraordinary investments in order to recover. ADOEXPO adds that the losses suffered by all its affiliates were much larger than 4.7 million pesos. It says that some enterprises only gave notice of some 20 to 25 percent of the damages and did not inform them of the status of their warehouse inventories at the moment of the storm.

Foreign, Domestic Investment

Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 1 Dec 79 p 38

[Article by Saul Pimentel]

[Text] The assistant director of the Dominican Center for Export Development [CEDOPEX] said yesterday that one of the obstacles to Dominican foreign trade is the country's "relative inability" to maintain its export markets.

Dr Jesus Maria Hernandez said that this inability is due to the fact that our non-traditional exports are based on the country's surplus products and are not promoted.

"At least our exportable production is not encouraged in this way, since a vicious circle is created: insecurity in the market prevents the increase of production, and insufficient production produces market instability."

Yesterday Hernandez talked about the "CEDOPEX objectives" at the seminary on U.S. customs, held in the Caonabo room of the Santo Domingo Hotel.

He stated that, in coordination with other public and private organizations, CEDOPEX is designing a "promotion strategy" in addition to the new law of exports incentive and promotion.

He pointed out that this strategy will be based on the promotion of investments and its basic objective will be to create projects oriented towards production for export.

"In this new type of development, we are using CEDOPEX's existing offices abroad, while carrying out pilot projects tending to corroborate the feasibility of producing exportable varieties," he said.

The official stated that right now a garlic and onion project is being developed in the southern region of the country in coordination with the Department of Agriculture, the Institute of Price Stabilization [INESPRES] and the Dominican Agrarian Institute [IAD].

He said that "this promotion of investments is very important to national development and will be helped enormously by the enactment into law of another instrument of the policy of incentives: the draft of a bill about agro-industrial promotion and development now being studied by the national congress."

He listed among the basic objectives of this bill "consolidating the exportable supply, increasing the added value of agricultural products, fostering the formation of small and medium-sized businesses and promoting regional development in order to create jobs in areas of small economic growth."

In addition, he said CEDOPEX is concentrating its efforts on the Caribbean market "in order to maintain and expand commercial relations with those countries which constitute natural markets, given the comparative advantages and the potential that the Caribbean market represents for the future of Dominican exports."

He announced that the coming year has been named by CEDOPEX as "The Year of Opening Toward the Caribbean."

He said the organization has carried out a market survey of the Caribbean islands and intends to "quantify the demand for those items which, in function of our present exportable supply and the potential for increasing the same, we can offer with the greatest comparative advantages."

Dr Hernandez said that "in addition we are carrying out development projects for fresh vegetables for the Caribbean, as well as market and financial backing research in a new strategy of assistance and promotion for the small and medium-sized producer-exporter."

The assistant director of CEDOPEX stated that "another aspect which limits the adequate growth of the exporting sector, especially in the nontraditional areas, is the difficulty of access to financial sources, especially for the small and medium-sized exporters."

He pointed out that the latter, in addition to taking away from the ability to compete in the market, limits their possibilities for expansion. For this reason, he said, CEDOPEX is studying the possibilities of establishing an effective system of financing and credit insurance for exports, using its own aval.

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CS0: 3010

INESPRE CONCERNED WITH RICE, SUGAR SUPPLY, DEMAND

Purchase of Rice

Santo Domingo LISTEN DIARIO in Spanish 5 Dec 79 p 15

[Text] The National Price Stabilization Institute [INESPRE] paid more than 8 million pesos for the purchase of rice from the country's millers.

From 1 November until now the state organization has paid the millers a total of 8,924,489.42 pesos.

INESPRE explains that the payments are being made daily through its various offices throughout the national territory.

It indicates that, despite the great quantity of rice the institute possesses in its storehouses, it is continuing to make purchases, signifying that the current existence of INESPRE rice guarantees an abundant supply to the consumers.

"By making daily payments to the millers, the institute is trying to protect the Dominican producer," the communique states.

Praise for Law No 80

Santo Domingo LISTEN DIARIO in Spanish 4 Dec 79 pp 1, 19

[Text] INESPRE Director Gustavo Sanchez Diaz asserted yesterday that he considered Dr Joaquin Balaguer's move to have the state distribute sugars for domestic consumption "a correct measure taken by the previous government."

Sanchez Diaz also asked the National Congress to have an existing bill in this regard "subjected to a thorough review and broadly discussed."

The official stated that "we might be making a mistake which we would all regret over the short term, but especially commerce, national industry and the consumers."

Diaz referred in a press conference to Law No 80 which specifies percentages of tax differentials on sugars for domestic consumption, which should now be changed.

"One of the main reasons why the previous government gave the commercialization to INESPREE was that of problems of supply and demand which, at that time, were giving rise to hoarding to the detriment of domestic consumers of sweets, especially affecting that type of industry," Diaz said.

He stressed that "although there is no doubt that Law No 80 and fixed prices of unrefined and refined sugar are currently hurting the sugarcane producers (farmers) and the sugar industry in general, domestic distribution under the control of the state has definitely had positive effects."

The official said that INESPREE "wants to make it very clear that it is in full agreement with the cane and beet producers that Law No 80 must be modified so that they may obtain a higher return on their products."

"Nevertheless, the distribution of sugars for domestic consumption must continue in accordance with the current system, for doing otherwise would be sowing the seed of speculation with a product of great importance for our domestic industry and trade, while at the same time there is a current deficit in production," Diaz added.

Yesterday the official read the following statement to the newspaper people with regard to the status of the bill aimed at modifying Law No 80:

Since November 1974, INESPREE has been commercializing sugars for domestic consumption. This activity by INESPREE is based on Law No 80 which specifies the percentages of tax differentials which are distributed as follows: 80 percent for the CDE [Economic Development Council], 15 percent for the CEA [State Sugar Council] and 5 percent for INESPREE to cover the costs of distribution throughout the country.

One of the main reasons the previous government gave the commercialization to INESPREE was that of problems of supply and demand which, at that time, were giving rise to hoarding to the detriment of domestic consumers of sweets, especially affecting that type of industry. Although there is no doubt that Law No 80 and fixed prices of raw and refined sugar are currently hurting the sugarcane producers (farmers) and the sugar industry in general, domestic distribution under the control of the state has definitely had positive effects.

It must be recognized that the structure of final fixed prices has produced a shift in the consumption of cream sugar to refined, compared with the structure of refined production whose facilities have not been modernized for decades. In other words, since Law No 80 became effective, the demand for refined sugar has continued to increase at an accelerated rate due to the limited price difference, the population growth and the growth in the food industry, whereas the supply continues to be more or less static.

Previously, distribution was in the hands of a few large distributors who purchased directly from the producers; we can truthfully state that if INESPREE had not been handling the distribution of sugars during the last few years there would have been great speculation to the detriment of the industrialists, trade and consumers in general.

Supply and Demand

Through a decree issued by the previous government, the production of refined sugar was fixed at 100,000 short tons per year, and due to the effort of the producers, even though operating at costs which exceeded the selling prices, it has been possible to exceed that figure reaching a level of about 108,000 short tons during the last harvest.

However, this increase in production was not able to make up for this year's deficit, which is estimated to be more than 10,000 short tons. This problem was confronted through the establishment of quotas and it was necessary to restrict distribution intended for human consumption, which is handled by the commercial sector with a view toward replacing it with brown sugar. No restriction in normal quotas was established for the industry itself.

That is, the current distribution system gives preference to the industrial sector, since the direct human consumer has the option of cream sugar for which there is no problem of supply. About 70 percent of the refined sweetener is for commercial sale, 28 percent for industrial use, and the remaining 2 percent is for institutions of other kinds.

Anticipation of the shortage made it possible to prevent any serious problem during the current year, especially during the months preceding the new harvest, since, despite the shortage, adequate control made it possible to maintain a constant level of supply.

Remaining Commitments

One of the problems corrected by INESPREE's current administration was that of payment to the suppliers and to the National Treasury Department in carrying out the provisions of Law No 80, inasmuch as there were serious delays previously. At present, payments are being made weekly, and we can pay in a shorter period of time, if documents are received for that purpose, since the institute's financial solvency makes this possible.

Apparent Confusion

What should be cleared up is the status of subsidies. INESPREE receives no subsidies originating from Law No 80, although it is awarded 5 percent of the total tax differential; in terms of distribution cost, this signifies only 2 percent as a trade margin for either refined sugar or cream, and this is used to cover operational costs. Therefore, statements indicating that the institution is subsidized should be corrected by those who made them.

Final Remarks

INESPRE wants to make it very clear that it is in full agreement with the producers both of cane and sugars to the extent that Law No 80 should be modified to enable them to obtain higher returns on their products. Nevertheless, the distribution of sugars for domestic consumption must continue in accordance with the current system, for doing otherwise would be sowing the seed of speculation with a product of great importance for our domestic industry and trade, while at the same time there is a current deficit in production. Making the government responsible for sugar distribution was a correct measure taken by the previous regime, and any change should be carefully studied; that is why INESPRE's executive directorate is asking the National Congress to have the current bill pertinent to this matter thoroughly reviewed and broadly discussed in order to avoid any error which we would greatly regret over the short term but which would particularly affect our national trade and industry and the consumers.

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CSO: 3010

HATO MAYOR-SAN PEDRO DE MACORIS HIGHWAY COMPLETED

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 5 Dec 79 p 4

[Excerpts] The Secretariat of Public Works announced yesterday that the construction of the Hato Mayor-San Pedro de Macoris highway was completed.

The highway, completed at a cost of \$3.2 million, is 27 kilometers long.

According to the secretariat's department of public relations, the width of the highway is 6.3 meters not counting the sidewalks, each of which is 2 meters wide.

The asphalt topping is 2.5 inches thick. It is expected that this achievement will be officially inaugurated this month.

The Hato Mayor-San Pedro de Macoris stretch is of significant importance for the agricultural and tourist development of the country's eastern region.

This recently constructed highway gives access to the Angelina, Porvenir and Consuelo sugar plantations, belonging to the State Sugar Council (CEA).

The highway is open to motor-vehicle traffic, despite its not having been officially inaugurated.

Moreover, the department of public relations advised that the public works camp in San Pedro de Macoris increased the number of its work gangs from two to four to be employed in the maintenance of the highways of that area.

According to what was announced, the Secretariat of Public Works has received the help of CEA teams to maintain the highways bordering San Pedro de Macoris in good condition.

Specifically, these highways are the San Pedro de Macoris-Cruce Los Guayacanes, the San Pedro-Punta Garza, the San Pedro-La Romana, the San Pedro-Hato Mayor, the Mella Vieja-Los Llanos, the San Pedro-Ramon Santana and the Mella Vieja-Quisqueya.

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CSO: 3010

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

SUGAR SUPPLY TO WORSEN--The president of the Association of Food Wholesalers of Santo Domingo said yesterday that the shortage of refined sugar could become worse if the State Sugar Council [CEA] does not take the necessary measures to regularize production. Luis Ruiz del Villar said that now merchants deposit their paid orders in the Institute of Price Stabilization [INESPRE] and wait up to a month before obtaining the product from the CEA. "We have reliable reports that CEA sugar mills are serving the product exclusively on Mondays and at 1000 hours they are out of sugar," he said. Interviewed by EL CARIBE journalists, Ruiz del Villar also said that he has no explanation why CEA has not yet started harvesting, since this would regularize national production. He added that refined sugar could be substituted by brown sugar but packaging conditions do not make it easy, since it is packed in 250-pound sacks. He asked the CEA to replace this type of packaging for smaller ones to facilitate distribution of the product to retailers. He said the lack of refined sugar in the supply will make more difficult the confection of the typical Christmas sweets which are bought by low-income sectors. [Text] [Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 1 Dec 79 p 36] 9341

PRSC ON PRD BICKERING--The Christian Social Revolutionary Party [PRSC] said yesterday that the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] has disappointed the people. In a statement sent to EL NACIONAL the political organization said that the white party "has betrayed the confidence that the Dominican people, anxious for a free and democratic society, placed in it." It explained that the Social Christians are worried about the way the governing group's efforts are diluted in internal bickering, "instead of applying these energies to solving the great national problems." It added that the PRD internal quarrels could endanger the incipient Dominican democracy since it diminishes the faith of the people in democratic institutions. The PRSC points out how important the problems of inflation are, most recently manifested in the prices of milk, foodstuffs, beans and many articles essential to the people. In the judgment of the Social Christians, "the demonstrated inefficiency of this government is a result of politicians lacking ideological training, a well-defined social project and commitment to the country's poor." It pointed out that for the good of the democratic institutions no public employee with national responsibilities should participate in party activities, thus

squandering the time that could be dedicated to solving the problems of his job. "We call on the government to become aware that its functions are not to satisfy group interests but to struggle for the common good of all Dominicans." The statement is signed by the PRSC national executive committee. [Text] [Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 2 Dec 79 p 30] 9341

ASD YOUTH TRAINING--The Social Democratic Alliance is preparing to participate in the 1982 general elections, stated its president, Dr Rafael Abinader, last night. The politician declared that the ASD has young persons "of both sexes, very intelligent and hard working" who are receiving training. In this regard he disclosed, "We have a training school where talks are given every Wednesday at the party's offices." He added that talks are given on economics and economic principles, economic philosophies, history, the parliamentary system, group and public speaking dynamics, and last 3 hours weekly, "to keep preparing young people to be middle level leaders." Dr Abinader made these remarks in a speech to the presidents and general secretaries of the ASD subcommittees in the capital during a Christmas gathering. He pointed out, "our aim is to instill social democracy in the Dominican Republic, which is the philosophy that has motivated liberty and dignity in the Nordic countries, such as Sweden, Norway, West Germany, Denmark and Holland." [Text] [Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 15 Dec 79 p 10]

NEW BUDGET--The 1980 national budget "is staying close" to that of 1979, according to a source closely connected with the National Budget Office. This year's budget was 736.7 million pesos, the highest in the country's republican history. The source of this information did not say whether the budget for 1980 will be lower or higher than the current one. He stated that the document has gone to press and that, as soon as it is printed, it will be presented to the National Development Council. [Text] [Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 5 Dec 79 p 12-A] 8568

CSO: 3010

LOCAL ASSOCIATION QUESTIONS BANK NATIONALIZATIONS

PA151646 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1830 GMT 14 Jan 80 PA

[Salvadoran Broadcasters Association (ASDER) program over national network]

[Text] The essence of democracy is found in its respect for private enterprise and the right to speak. The Salvadoran Broadcaster Association now, expresses its opinion.

Why is the banking system being nationalized?

The crowd, the men in the street--the men who are not bankers, economists or politicians, but who are interested in current affairs--are asking why nationalizing the banking system is considered one of the solutions to the country's financial problem.

What do we stand to gain with the so-called nationalization?

We are told that it will be a Costa Rican style nationalization. Nevertheless, we know that the Costa Rican bank credit system is a real disaster. We also know that with this nationalization the state is charging 20 percent more through its system and this is affecting the people in general. This really worries us.

We ask why Argentina, Chile and other countries have returned to the free banking system after several years of nationalization? Could it be that those countries met with failure?

Why nationalize the banking system in El Salvador when for years laws have existed which permit the Reserve Central Bank to establish controls and loan policies granting the people the money they need?

Why don't the other state credit institutions operate in a manner favoring the less privileged sectors?

We also ask, why is there not a law or decree limiting the percentage of shares that can be held? These shares are currently in the hands of a few families. This should be an issue for serious study.

Why must we change our banking system when we can use pressure to make sure that loans will be granted with deadlines and interests more favorable to the public?

Perhaps we are asking questions which make no sense, but these are the questions the people are asking.

We need positive, not political answers. We need to have confidence in the people running the government. The decisions to be made are serious, historic and not demagogic. Whatever the case, these questions should be answered for the tranquillity of the people. People's peace of mind.

CSO: 3010

EL SALVADOR

BRIEFS

GUERRILLA KILLINGS, OCCUPATIONS--San Salvador, 15 Jan (AFP)--Police reported here today that three persons died in the outskirts of San Salvador when guerrilla teams attacked and seized some neighborhoods. According to the police report, commandoes of the Revolutionary People's Army (ERP) last night killed two former national guardsmen, agents of the dissolved Nationalist Democratic Organization (ORDEN). This attack took place in the San Jacinto neighborhood, on this city's southside. Also on Monday night ERP members machinegunned a prominent former leader of ORDEN, whose name has not been announced. It has been reported he was a former deputy and a presidential official. [Text] [PA161210 Paris AFP in Spanish 0055 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

DUVALIER OPPOSITION--A group of Haitian newsmen residing in the Dominican Republic have set up an association to contribute to the struggle of their people against the life dictatorship of Jean-Claude Duvalier. In a document released in Santo Domingo, the Dominican capital, the Haitian newsmen stated that their group will work for the defense of democratic liberties which have been codified in the universal declaration on the rights of man. The release adds that the independent citizens are forced to work clandestinely due to the repression to which they are subjected by the Haitian military forces. The PRENSA LATINA dispatch points out that the release also adds that at this crucial hour it is up to the Haitian newsmen to take up the pen of criticism and to depend on the force of reason. [Text] [FL162021 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1919 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL]

CSO: 3010

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT PROBE OF URANIUM HAILED

PA152300 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Commentary]

[Excerpts] Some papers have played up the news that El Mochito Mine in Santa Barbara department has uranium deposits. This news alone would be cause for rejoicing because such a valuable strategic metal that is so highly quoted on the international market could boost the national economy. However, the news is coupled with the charge that uranium is being illegally exploited by the concessionaire, Rosario Resources Corporation, because the state has not authorized it to do so.

According to the charge, the Transnational Mining Company has been illegally exporting more uranium than gold to the United States, Germany and Japan for several years without paying anything to the treasury. In other words, it has profited clandestinely from the country's wealth. At the same time, it was reported the government has done nothing to stop that illegal business, which harms the interests of the people adding that the company's union recently disclosed the delicate case to the superior council of the armed forces.

Contrary to speculation, the authorities have not been remiss, negligent or in collusion with Rosario's shady dealings. The first thing to do to satisfy public curiosity should have been to confirm that uranium exists at El Mochito, and that is precisely what the Natural Resources Secretariat has been doing.

In fact, the natural resources minister said during a news conference last week that a mines and hydrocarbons bureau committee had conducted an investigation at El Mochito to determine the truth of the workers' charge that uranium is being extracted. Once he receives its report, the minister said, he will publicize it so the public will know nothing is being kept hidden.

The same committee will analyze ore taken from the site to determine how much uranium it contains. If necessary, samples will be sent away to

specialized laboratories abroad. The natural resources minister flatly stated that if local or foreign tests show that the ore to be exported contains a marketable amount of radioactive material, the mining firm will definitely face serious difficulties because the government is not going to allow such a thing, meaning the alleged illegal export of uranium without a permit.

In sum, this shows the public administration is not being remiss but intends to get to the bottom of the trade union's charge against Rosario.

CSO: 3010

NEW ECONOMIC PROGRAM TO BE PRESENTED TO IMF

FL141030 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 9 Jan 80 p 3 FL

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 8 Jan (CANA)--The Jamaican Government is now finalising a new economic programme for presentation to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its board meeting in February, Prime Minister Michael Manley has said in a radio broadcast.

The programme would be part of Jamaica's application for a waiver by the IMF so as to allow the drawdown of U.S. \$40 million which would have been due in mid-January this year if the country had not failed the IMF's net foreign assets test set for December 31 last.

Mr. Manley said the programme would also be part of an application for foreign exchange necessary to pay the high cost of many imported goods.

Jamaica had a three-year economic recovery programme based on a U.S. \$240 million three-year loan from the IMF, signed in June 1978.

The loan was extended last year by U.S. \$160 million to be spread over the final two years of the programme.

However, the continuation of the loan was based on Jamaica passing quarterly tests based on the country's net foreign assets, net domestic assets, and net banking credit to the public sector.

In his broadcast yesterday, dealing with economic problems, Mr. Manley said developing countries were being strangled by the high oil prices which developed countries could afford.

A major source of Jamaica's foreign exchange problem was the big drain caused by oil imports, he added.

Mr. Manley noted that Jamaica could not finance the 1980 budget as it stood, and noted that discussions on remedying the situation were currently underway.

He also noted the increased prices for food and transportation and said that the shortages of raw materials and layoffs were possibilities.

The root of Jamaica's problems, he added, was the structure of the country's economy. This was dependent on the Western world where the prices of oil, wheat and spare parts had risen dramatically, he said.

In what was a paid broadcast, Mr. Manley spoke of the ruling People's National Party's policy of democratic socialism, which he characterised as the answer to economic freedom and the key to change.

CSO: 3020

'GLENER' BOARD CHAIRMAN SCORES FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT

FL141045 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 10 Jan 80 pp 1, 10 FL

[Text] Democracy in Jamaica is threatened by national financial mismanagement, the GLEANER Company's board chairman and managing director, Oliver Clarke, told a group of Montego Bay businessmen on Tuesday evening.

He said that is the bad management of Jamaica's resources continued much longer, "It appears that no band of people, however gifted, will be able to correct the situation, in a democratic environment." He said "very soon, even perhaps today, choices are going to have to be made whether to use our limited foreign exchange to buy food or raw materials."

"The questions are going to have to be: Should people eat or be employed? Should people eat, or should we pay our foreign debt? Should people eat or should we pay out oil bill? These are not academic questions. They are questions which we will have to answer because our foreign exchange resources will not allow us to do all these things."

Greatest Dilemma

Mr Clarke was speaking at the Montego Bay Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting. He severely castigated government's spending of public money, and said Jamaica was facing its greatest ever foreign exchange dilemma, "and there doesn't seem to be any government plan to solve it" he added. Mr Clarke said: "I view 1980 with the gravest concern. During this year, our chaotic economy so grossly mismanaged - will be in a crisis. As we start please consider whether 1980 will not be the year in which bad national financial management finally destroyed our democratic way of life. This would be a terrible disaster for this country. But the figures are so bad and public sector financial management so incompetent that one must consider a real possibility which may lie ahead."

Crippling Debts

The CLEANER Company's chief executive told an overcrowded Chamber of Commerce meeting room of more than 60 leading Montego Bay private sector

executives that they should remember that when a private company went broke, it goes into liquidation, the assets are sold off, its investors lose their money and whosoever purchases the assets could start the business again without the previous crippling debts.

Not so a country," Mr Clarke observed. "If a country is run more and more into debts, successive governments cannot default on those debts they have to assume them and repay them if they are to retain an international image of financial integrity. Our debt burden is now intolerable, and it has been created by bad management of our country's resources."

Mr Clarke said there were some persons, including himself who believed that unless management in the public sector "is dramatically improved to make better use of our limited foreign exchange, then it will be impossible for any future government to manage this country without the tanks".

The I.M.F. Tests

According to Mr Clarke failure of the recent IMF tests could have been foreseen many months ago by most intelligent people. But despite this, no contingency plans appeared to have been developed, with the result that Jamaicans will have to wait until next month to know whether the country can continue to anticipate IMF help. "This appears at best unfortunate, and at worse irresponsible", Mr Clarke said.

Mr Clarke went on: "Not only did we fail the test, but we went out of 1979 in a blast of glory - the government having tabled a supplementary budget aimed at expanding public expenditure when the country had been led to believe that cuts were the expected order of the day. Fortunately, such foolhardiness was apparently at the eleventh hour, seen for what it was, and the budget deferred. This led to a cabinet reshuffle which appears to have saved the country nothing, certainly, it will not produce economic growth."

This compounding of economic mistakes upon economic mistakes "has now collapsed our economy and ruined our foreign exchange budget," Mr Clarke said. We have no foreign exchange now, and no one appears to have an idea where we will get any from this year. There is little time. Our foreign exchange crisis is well known, but it's urgency and disastrous consequences appear to be under assessed."

CSO: 3020

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES 11,000 WORKERS TO BE LAID OFF

FL141040 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 10 Jan 80 pp 1, 10 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Michael Manley told trade union leaders yesterday that the government intends to lay off 11,000 public-sector workers to facilitate a \$50-million budget cut.

Mr Manley said the government had considered various means of obtaining the 50-million cut, but had to settle for a reduction of the public-sector work-force in view of the fact that 71 percent of the national tax revenues were being paid out in salaries to these workers.

Stating that the government was having difficulty in developing the recurrent budget for 1980-81 the prime minister said that in the present economic circumstances, it was extremely difficult to develop a budget showing a proper relationship between tax revenues and recurrent expenditure; and therefore that the fact that 71 percent of the national tax revenues were being paid out in wages to public-sector workers had to be considered.

Domestic Loans

Mr Manley also said that one of the stipulations made by the International Monetary Fund in the current negotiations was that the public sector should not take any loans from domestic sources.

This will affect plans by several public-sector firms, including the Jamaica public service company to obtain domestic loans to finance an improvement programme. The J.P.S., the Jamaica omnibus service company and several other public-sector firms are also expected to lay off workers in view of the stipulation.

The unions attending the meeting - the B.I.T.U., the N.W.C., the T.U.C., J.A.L.G.O., J.U.P.O.P.E., the Jamaica Civil Service Association, the Nurses Association of Jamaica and the Jamaica Teachers Association objected to the lay-off of the workers.

Instead, the unions suggested that the government reduce its foreign missions abroad and withdraw missions in countries such as the Soviet Union,

close down some of the statutory bodies which are losing money, and tax sidewalk vendors and garage operators.

There was also a suggestion that if the government attempted to upgrade its income tax collection system more funds could be made available.

Another suggestion was that people in the public sector who were close to the age of 60 should be encouraged to retire.

The unions also suggested that the only sacrifice they say possible was to encourage their members to agree to a two-year "freeze" on wage increase.

Mr Manley, after hearing the objections and suggestions, agreed that there should be another meeting, to be chaired by Finance Minister Eric Bell and labour minister, Howard Cooke, at Jamaica House last night.

Newsman Barred

The meeting was scheduled for 7:30 p.m. but did not start until 8 p.m., when Mr Bell arrived. Reporters and cameramen were barred from the room.

Those arriving for the meeting up to 8 p.m. were Mr Bell, Mr Cooke, Mr Glaister Duncan, permanent secretary in the Ministry of the Public Service; Mr H. Roy Thompson, president of the N.W.C., Senator Hopeton Caven, general secretary of the T.U.C., Mr E. Lloyd Taylor, general secretary of JALGO, Mr Claude O'Reagan, president of JUPOPE, Mr Winston Clarke, president of the J.C.S.A.; and Mr Sam Stewart, vice-president; Mrs Syringa Marshall-Burnett, of the Nurses Association of Jamaica, Mr Hugh Dawes, president of the Jamaica Teachers Association, and Mrs Fay Saunders, general secretary.

No report on the outcome of the meeting was available at press time.

CSO: 3020

BRIEFS

UTILITIES SITUATION WORSENS--The island's light and power situation has worsened as the public service company reported this morning that the two gas turbines at (Hunt's Bay) broke down during the night. Both generators were supplying electricity to some sections of the corporate area, notably the Kingston public hospital and the Esso oil refinery. These institutions are now without power and it is feared that the shutdown at Esso may lead to a shortage of diesel fuel for standby plans. In the meantime, the parties to the dispute at the JPS [Jamaica Public Service] are to meet at the Ministry of Labor again this morning for another attempt at solving the crisis. Last night the parties met until after midnight but failed to reach an agreement. In the meantime, several sections of the island served by the national water authority continue to be without water supplies or are experiencing low water pressure because of the power outage. In the corporate area, the water commission has been advising consumers to begin storing water for domestic purposes as certain sections of the city will experience low water pressure or no water at all. [Excerpts] [FL161551 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL]

UTILITIES STRIKE SETTLEMENT EFFORTS--The acting prime minister, Mr P. J. Patterson, has said that the government viewed the current situation in the public utilities with great concern. In a statement issued a short while ago, Mr Patterson said fullest efforts were being made by government to get a settlement of the public service dispute by today. The statement said that over the past 24 hours the deputy prime minister had been in separate meetings with (UTAS), which is the union representing the JPS [Jamaica Public Service] supervisors now on strike, as well as with the JPS management and the minister of public utilities to try to secure a formula for settlement and a work resumption. In a general comment on the situation, Public Utilities Minister Carlyle Dunkley said the JPS strike was having a horrendous effect on all aspects of national life, including the health services and the bauxite industry. [Text] [FL161840 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL]

MEXICO

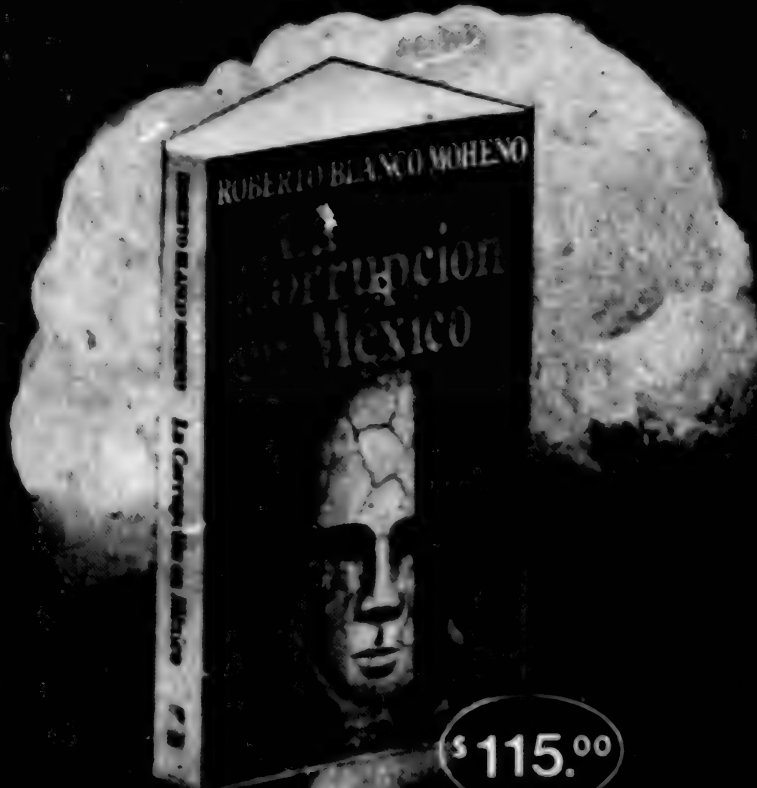
CONGRESSMAN WRITES BOOK ON CORRUPTION

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Dec 79 p 17-A

[Advertisement] See following page for photo and key.

UNA BOMBA DE 368 PAGINAS

(1)



(2)

Ya esta a la venta el explosivo libro: "LA CORRUPCION EN MEXICO", del controvertido periodista y diputado, ROBERTO BLANCO MOHENO. Adquieralo en tiendas de autoservicio y librerías en todo el país, por solo \$ 115.00. Otro éxito editorial de

(3)

BRUGUERA.

Key:

1. A 368-page Bomb
2. [Photo of book; local price of 115 pesos = \$5.05.]
3. Now on sale, the explosive book "Corruption In Mexico" by the controversial journalist and congressman, Roberto Blanco Moheno. Available in all self-service stores and bookstores throughout the country for only 115 pesos [approximately US \$5.06.] Another success of EDITORIAL BRUGUERA.

CARLOS NUNEZ DISCUSSES FSLN ORGANIZATION, POLITICAL STRATEGY

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 11 Dec 79 p 4

[Interview with Comandante Carlos Nunez, member of the FSLN National Directorate: "The Motto Is Organization, Organization and More Organization"]

[Text] Toward Construction of a Party

[Question] 1. How is the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] approaching the problem of construction of a party?

[Answer] The objective of the FSLN concerning internal organization is construction of a revolutionary party. It will combine the political, historic and combat experience of Sandinism enriched by the lessons of the international revolutionary movement, the peoples who fight for their complete emancipation and the legacy inherited from our leaders who died in combat. It will be under the liberation banners of the general of free men, Augusto Cesar Sandino, and Carlos Fonseca. It will gather under a single and recognized leadership the most honest Nicaraguans who are faithful to the revolution to confront the complex tasks of the revolutionary process. In order to reach this objective, it is necessary to go through a stage whose most important condition is reorganization of the Sandinist forces.

At this time, we are absorbed in the hard work of party organization since the Sandinist forces have already been placed under a single legitimate revolutionary leadership--the National Directorate. This task is indispensable since, through it, we will close all the gaps opened by the crisis. We will strengthen the organization and better educate the cadres and members. We will guide all the militant forces with a single policy accepted by all and we will insure the existence of a vanguard that will require more work from itself to play the role of leader of the popular Sandinist revolution. One of the main advances within our organization is the demonstration of

its ability to adapt to the new conditions of the revolutionary process and to take into account the participation of a people who, under its leadership, have been the main protagonists in the history of this country. Under the conditions that I have indicated above, the National Directorate has changed the concept of collaborator and militant as levels of the organization. From now on, the category will be /member of the FSLN/ [in boldface] with three levels based on qualities and abilities: militant, premilitant and affiliate. The first is the highest rank to which a Sandinist revolutionary can aspire and affiliate is the beginning of an ascending process to be a candidate for militancy by going first through premilitancy. Affiliation is a concrete way to stimulate the participation of the most advanced and combative sectors of our people within the FSLN. There is a need to incorporate companeros with clear vision and loyalty to popular interests.

We can summarize the achievements made in party organization until now as follows: a) efforts to insure the leadership ability of our top organization as governing instrument of political activity; b) formation of the National Secretariat based on an appropriate division of labor and capable of inserting the political line throughout society and different labor areas; c) formation of the Departmental Leadership Committees as collective organisms in charge of guiding the establishment of the FSLN policy in the 16 departments in the country, maintaining political relations and representing the organization to all other forces; and d) efforts to reinforce the internal order by defining the organic situation of all our companeros, creating political stimuli that inspire them to be part of the vanguard and fight for the interests that it represents. We try in this way to distinguish the nature and contents of the vanguard, differentiating it from the mass organizations, state organizations and the armed forces themselves. Anyone who aspires to be a member of the FSLN must meet the established requirements and earn Sandinist membership through work. In general, by undertaking these tasks, we could say that we are laying the groundwork for the Sandinist revolutionary party although we know that, once the internal order is finished, we will need greater ability and dexterity to resolve the burning questions of the revolution and lead the organization toward formation of a clearly revolutionary party. This is the way we are approaching the problem of construction of a party.

[Question] 2. How is affiliation with the FSLN defined?

[Answer] It is defined as the fulfillment of the requirements established in our internal regulation with the premise that a Sandinist affiliate must be faithful to the interests of his people, the revolution and the Sandinist front. Some of the requirements are: a) to belong to one of the mass organizations; b) to obey unhesitatingly the directions of the central and intermediate organizations;

c) to spread the postulates and political lines of the organization; d) to defend the FSLN from the attacks of its enemies; e) to participate in a disciplined manner in the Affiliates Assembly; e) to respect organic discipline; and f) to pay dues.

The Vanguard and the Masses

[Question] 3. How is the FSLN as vanguard related to the mass organizations?

[Answer] We aspire to have a permanent tie not only with the mass organizations but with all the people, with all the economic, political and democratic sectors of the country. Unquestionably the best way is a tie with all the people and the main way this is done is through the mass organizations. We link ourselves with the mass organizations through all the members and cadres in charge of encouraging the mass line on all levels of society: workers, peasants, students, youths, women, office workers, craftsmen, etc. However, we also are concerned with strengthening--through Sandinist Base Committees--those places that are sensitive or even strategic because of their importance in completing the established revolutionary tasks. Through the correct placement of its forces, the FSLN will insure its revolutionary commitment and the policy outlined by the National Directorate and the Government Junta of National Reconstruction will be carried out. We are also tied to the masses through propaganda, verbal and written agitation, clear and persistent orientation that makes the masses learn and understand the scope of the revolution, its difficulties and errors and especially the infinite spirit of sacrifice we must have in order to end the crisis situation inherited from the previous regime. We are tied to the mass organizations through their most honorable leaders, the men and women from the oppressed masses who are the most suitable compañeros, who have the most authority and respect in order to channel the revolutionary potential of the masses along paths that reconstruct the Sandinist fatherland and defend the revolution. The CST [Sandinist Workers Federation], ATC [Agricultural Workers Association], CDS [Sandinist Defense Committees], AMLAE, JS-19 and ANS [National Association of Sandinist Children] are the broadest, largest and most faithful organizations with greatest national projection today. If these organizations have been able to proliferate and develop with similar impact, it has been because of the efforts of the FSLN to maintain a permanent tie.

New Power Created

[Question] 4. The CDS are called embryos of popular power. How can this term be explained better?

[Answer] We use it to point out that, with the popular Sandinist revolution, all the people have won, for the first time in history, their full right to be free and to participate directly in the exercise of power through their organizations and their vanguard. Under the new conditions, these cannot be organizations isolated from the national situation, especially in the case of the CDS. The organized masses should participate fully in the encouragement of the crucial tasks indicated by the revolution. Just as the union organizations will be part of the policy to reestablish the productive system, the CDS must be important organs to reestablish the material infrastructure destroyed by Somozist bombings, to combat the social problems of health, education, poverty, etc., in the popular sectors, to keep the counterrevolutionaries from affecting the achievements attained, to quickly indicate mistakes committed by state officials, to form fraternal ties with the armed forces, to teach a lesson to the Somozist elements that oppose the crystallization of the people's demands and to eradicate all remnants of corruption inherited from the Somozists--in short, to defend the revolution from all the dangers that may lie in wait for it. If we want to promote an economic plan that tries to attack the main weaknesses of the structural crisis inherited from Somozism, it is logical that this should be done by combining all the popular forces with the state organizations and the vanguard, considering the mass organizations--like the CDS--as active subjects of the revolution, not passive instruments to resort to on specific occasions. They should be promoters of changes and transformations in society, clearly aware of their strength, their rights and the revolutionary commitment contracted with all the people. If we state that they are embryos of popular power, it is because of two basic characteristics: first, this revolution has a profound popular content; and second, the CDS have fought hard in their work on each and every important problem and they have enthusiastically celebrated the progress of the process. It is true that it is still necessary to specify the different forms of participation of the mass organizations in the state structures and in the specific fields of the immediate plans for each social sector that these organizations represent. However, the growing manifestation of this force which aims at fully participating so that the popular Sandinist revolution can fulfill its commitment free from all dangers and difficulties is an undeniable fact. We had a united people in order to overthrow the oppressive dictatorship; we need that extraordinary force more now to construct the gigantic structure of a new society dreamed by that same people for more than 150 years of political and economic domination.

National Unity in the Reconstruction Stage

[Question] 5. How is the FSLN undertaking the problem of formation of the Council of State?

[Answer] Until now our efforts have focused on encouraging political talks with a number of organizations willing to participate actively in the revolutionary process. We have two intentions: first, to explain our political positions about the revolutionary process and correct the misunderstandings that might exist with these organizations; and second, to listen to their positions in order to find basic agreements that permit us to crystallize unity in action. The above has a general objective shown in the efforts of the FSLN to unite the maximum number of forces around the popular Sandinist revolution. We ask all the organizations for a basic commitment: political consistency to assume their responsibilities and respect commitments through practical deeds, showing all the people their true readiness to contribute to the process. This is the first stage. Nevertheless, in the field of concrete deeds, we see revealing demonstrations of a different concept by activists or members of these organizations. We do not want to state that it is a generalized policy at all levels of these organizations but, in the concrete case of activists or members of the Communist Party, we have learned of statements that obscure the efforts made. In public speeches they have attacked the FSLN and its leaders. They have tried to impede the activity of union leaders of the CST and to confuse the masses. Some leaders of the SCAAS and the CTN [Union of Nicaraguan Workers] have done the same thing by stating that there is no union freedom or freedom of expression here. This is contradictory when efforts toward unity have arisen principally from the vanguard. Nevertheless, we believe that these problems are the result of the development of the process and of the young age of the revolution; therefore, these situations are understandable. We want to point out that if the interests of the revolution are to be maintained unharmed, all the related organizations must make serious efforts to place their activists and members under a single line. This means incorporating all people in an organized manner into the complex tasks of national reconstruction. The organizations that are most consistent and most faithful to the revolution are those that should be the spearhead in the Council of State under the new conditions. In the first place, we aspire to maintain political relations, through the Council of State, with those political and economic sectors that have important tasks to carry out in the implementation of the plan for economic revitalization and reconstruction of the productive system: the MDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Movement], COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise], the church, etc. In the second place, we want relations with organizations like the PLI [Independent Liberal Party], PPSC and UPN [Union of Nicaraguan Journalists] which have influence on certain social sectors. Third, there is the traditional left that is still, under the present conditions, divided and dispersed. Let us emphasize that it is not a matter of uniting organizations just to unite them; it is a matter of focusing them all on the most important and sensitive tasks of the revolution, advancing the revolutionary political plan

with the FSLN as the leader, guarantor and guardian of the revolution. We still have much to learn. We still must go farther to understand better; we have to learn to be frank with ourselves in order to advance. We must be critical about those errors that must not be committed, be understanding about those errors that can only be overcome by consolidating the process and be demanding with all the united forces to create a solid wall against which the counter-revolution will crash and die. On that road we will better define the nature, concept, content and objectives of the Council of State, starting from the fact that it is unrealistic to present it as it was conceived in the days when victory was not yet ours. With the efforts of all the political, economic and democratic sectors, our country will be able to rise above the ruins, organize itself, reconstruct itself and continue to conquer all difficulties until it achieves a truly free Sandinist fatherland.

[Question] 6. What policy has been defined concerning the other leftist organizations?

[Answer] The Sandinist strategy through which important national and international forces were united is a winning strategy. The dictatorship has been overthrown and there is a legitimate vanguard recognized by all the people and all the sectors of the nation. Its role as vanguard is unquestioned and its leadership ability is obvious. Why are there still leftist organizations that demand political and organic independence? If they agree with the revolutionary tasks presented, with the character and nature of the revolution and with the goals of this stage, why do they want that independence? We say this without any sectarian motives and without a hint of hegemony. We are realists and, seeing this reality, we are aware that the best effort, the best contribution, the best policy is to place the revolutionary movement under Sandinist leadership. Its position as vanguard is broadly endorsed and recognized by the masses.

We feel that these should be the objectives of all the organizations. At the political level, at the union level and at the popular level, the fatherland needs united organizations to better confront the tasks of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. There is no reason for dispersion of the labor movement, the peasant movement or the popular movement. Unity is one of the principal legacies, one of the principal experiences and one of the great lessons of the FSLN. The different organizations in our country have seen enough demonstrations of this experience of unity cultivated under fire and repression; this is our most sincere hope. The objective reality is the persistence of these organizations that advocate **/unity in action/** [in boldface] to defend the revolution from the economic, political and military point of view. We consent to this but we will be tireless in our work to demonstrate the justice and validity of

our positions. As we said at the beginning, we especially demand that any commitment be expressed through practical deeds, through the consistent, united and revolutionary activity of all sectors of Nicaraguan society. The revolution is one, the people are one and, therefore, their organizations should be one. Only in that way can we guarantee that their aspirations, their demands and the conquests desired for so long will be a beautiful reality. Our lives continue and we will always be for the people and their legitimate rights. We are not willing to give an inch in our just revolutionary positions.

7717

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

CRIME SOLVINGS CLAIMED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES

PA160054 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0503 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 14 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Commanders of the Sandinist police and the State Security today announced solution of three murders committed some weeks ago, including the deaths of two outstanding members of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) and a businessman.

Rene Vivas, commander of the Sandinist National Police, Lenin Cerna, of State Security, and guerrilla Commander Walter Ferreti, at a news conference revealed details of the deaths of Pedro Rivas and Marcel Pallais, of the army, and Guillermo Wheelock.

Based on the announcements made today, advertising agent Roger Fisher, presently abroad and identified as an agent of the former "National Security Office" (OSN), for personal reasons hired three criminals to "help" him kill Pallais, who worked at the National Telecommunications and Postal Directorate (TELCOR). The victim was a nephew of former dictator Anastasio Somoza Debayle.

Roger Garcia, known in the underworld as "Chino Negro," after his capture revealed that Fisher had paid him 6,000 cordobas (\$600) for the "jobs" he did with the help of two Costa Ricans, whom he did not identify.

The Sandinist officer was intercepted in his vehicle on the road to Masaya. After killing him, the murderers left his body in an empty lot near the Central American University (UCA).

Pedro Rivas, assistant director of the Sandinist "Walter Mendoza" Police School, was killed by four persons, one of whom, Ramiro Borge Gonzalez, was later captured and helped clear up the case.

The Sandinist officer surprised the four during a holdup on the southern highway and was taking them in when the criminals shot him at an intersection in the capital. The other assailants are still at large.

Luis Adolfo Hernandez, "Salveque," said the band was linked to former Somozists in refuge in some embassies in this capital and that he had helped several of them leave the embassies to seek a way out of the country. "Salveque" revealed that the arms used in attacks on the residence of some Sandinist commanders, such as the one on the home of Osvaldo Lacayo of the EPS, were kept in one of these embassies.

Hernandez turned out to be an employee of the Managua governing junta (mayor's office). He claimed to be a former guerrilla fighter.

CSO: 3010

PARAGUAY

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR--New Brazilian Ambassador to Paraguay Gen Fernando Belfort Bethlem (Ret) presented his credentials to President Alfredo Stroessner yesterday in the government palace. [PY111327 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 10 Jan 80 p 12 PY]

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

NEW AIR FORCE COMMANDERS--Lt Gen Luis Arias Graziani, aeronautic minister and Peruvian Air Force (FAP) commander in chief, yesterday noon, confirmed the new commanders of FAP units and departments. The ceremony was held at the minister's office. Lt Gen Jose Garcia Calderon, FAP chief of the general staff and Lt Gen Carlos de la Portilla Gomez, FAP inspector general, were present. The new commanders are: Lt Gen Hernan Boluarte Ponce de Leon, FAP operations commander; Maj Gen Federico Castro Moretti, personnel commander; Maj Gen Luis Martens Lorente, instruction commander and Maj Gen Carlos Arias Graziani, aerial photography general department director general. On the same day Maj Gen Guillermo Carbonel Pasco, Callao Air Force Base new commander in chief, was received by FAP operations command. The instruction command personnel also received Maj Gen Elias Mendoza Yumbled, FAP officers school (EOFAP) new director. Maj Gen Enrico Praelli, FAP material commander also received Col Guillermo Martinez Davila, FAP new maintenance service commander. EOFAP new director Major General Mendoza Yumbled was received at Las Palmas Air Base. Instruction commander Maj Gen Ricardo Gomez Sanchez Garcia presided over the ceremony which was attended by FAP military and civilian personnel. Major General Gomez Sanchez invited those present to show obedience and respect to the new commanders. Land and air maneuvers were held in honor of the new chief Maj Gen Elias Mendoza, who is also commander in chief of Las Palmas Air Base. [Text] [PA120147 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 3 Jan 80 p 3 PA]

CSO: 3010

COMMUNIQUE REFUTES ALLEGATIONS ON PRISON CONDITIONS

PY082128 Paris AFP in Spanish 1637 GMT 8 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 8 Jan (AFP)--The existence of an "Attica plan" for the elimination of jailed guerrillas was denied here today through an official communique. For several weeks now the charge of an intent to murder subversive prisoners in the style of Attica, a New York locality where a prison riot caused 43 deaths in 1971, has been appearing in the foreign media.

The communique stresses that the main objective of the current international campaign is to seek "martyrs so the attacks against the country may be redoubled" at a time when the arguments regarding torture, deaths, disappearances, etc., have been refuted." [quotation marks as received] Therefore "it is necessary to clarify its purposes in advance with the objective of unmasking the guiding intention before public opinion," the National Directorate of Public Relations [Direccion Nacional de Relaciones Publicas] (DINARP) specifies in its report.

The report adds that the guard personnel who circulate within the security zone in which the detainees are located "are unarmed and only carry a wooden baton for the eventual case of self-defense."

According to the communique, "it is not improbable that one of the detained ringleaders is heading a rebel movement that would justify repressive measures that in turn would cause victims," because the guerrillas, through their relatives, are aware of the existence of the world campaigns. The charges made abroad and "the unrest in view of this threat to massacre prisoners are surely intended to justify a riot in the No 1 military confinement establishment" known as "Libertad." The DINARP makes it clear that only those who have been tried for crimes of subversion are being held in Libertad prison, that political prisoners do not exist and that common criminals are not kept in this prison.

The lengthy official communique has been released "to counter, in a way that is deemed suitable, the lies that the media, either

deliberately or due to a lack of knowledge, disseminate regarding our country." The DINARP has also denied that there have been any leprosy or tuberculosis epidemics in the prison. In the former case, it has been reported that symptoms were detected in a prisoner, although at a noncontagious stage. In the latter case, only three cases of tuberculosis were confirmed in 1979. Two of the cases are under control and the third case is being treated. The DINARP has indicated that the medical service includes armed forces doctors and the doctors of the prisoners themselves.

According to DINARP, the prisoners' living conditions are not "shocking" because the recreation periods last for 1 hour during the winter and up to 2 hours during the summer. During these periods they can practice gymnastics and team sports. The prisoners can also use the workshop and play musical instruments, such as the case of the Argentine Miguel Angel Estrella, who practices "14 hours a day on a piano donated by a group of friends."

A network of loudspeakers disseminates national and international newscasts broadcast by the commercial radio stations of Montevideo, and these are complemented with programs prepared in the establishment with news items taken from the written media, the DINARP adds.

To stress the fact that good treatment exists, the DINARP has cited statements made by the French lawyer Francois Cheron and by 27 foreign diplomats who have visited Libertad prison. Cheron has stated that "the conditions are comparable to those in the prisons of my country," and the diplomats have asserted that "if they are compared with those of other prisons in Latin America, it is a luxury prison," the DINARP stresses.

The communique indicates that as of 22 December 1979 there were 1,479 guerrillas in prison, including 1,253 men, 226 women and between 20 and 25 foreigners. Of this total, sentences have been handed down in 92.5 percent of the cases while the rest, 111 persons, are in detention, their trials are underway and they are at the disposal of the judge, it adds.

DINARP has indicated that since 1972, 4,746 guerrillas have been tried and 3,267 have already been released. Moreover, the courts are granting releases before sentences have been completed, the communique asserts, and it is false that the lack of money is a cause for stopping any prisoner from leaving prison." [quotation mark as received] This can happen, although to date it has not, if the prisoner does not have sufficient money for the guarantee that is demanded by the judge, the DINARP finally reports.

URUGUAY

BRIEFS

ADMIRAL TO BRAZIL--Uruguayan Navy Chief of Staff Rear Adm Rodolfo Invidio left for Brazil today. In Brasilia he will attend the change of command ceremony of the South Atlantic Force. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 7 Jan 80 PY]

FUEL PRICE INCREASE--The Uruguayan Government has ordered a 21-percent increase in the price of all petroleum-derived fuels as of today, alleging as the reason for the measure the increase in international crude petroleum prices. The price of premium gasoline went to 8.70 pesos and that of common gasoline to 6.95 pesos per liter. At the same time the government decreed a 12-percent increase in electricity and telecommunications rates. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 8 Jan 80 PY]

OIL IMPORTS--The government has announced that Uruguay purchased \$290 million worth of oil during 1979, and that next year it expects to spend about \$450 million to satisfy its oil needs. Iraq, Venezuela and Nigeria are the main suppliers of oil to Uruguay. [PY071025 Montevideo Radio El Espectador in Spanish 1500 GMT 28 Dec 79 PY]

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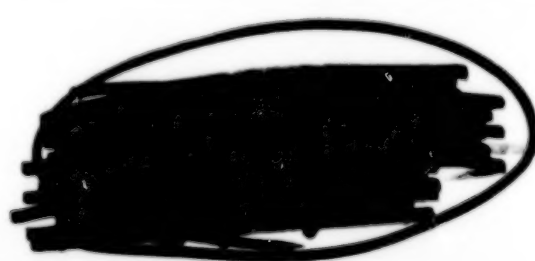
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